
MINNESOTA YOUTH SUCCESS STORY: AUSTIN

WSA 7 – South Central Minnesota Private Industry Council/Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC)

AUSTIN



Upon first meeting Austin, staff could not imagine all this young man would be able to accomplish so quickly. The numerous difficulties he needed to overcome were significant. Our first clue to who Austin would become should have been when he walked over a mile in temperatures twelve degrees below zero to meet with staff.

A big component of youth services is to assist youth in setting and reaching goals. Austin was determined and successful in achieving many goals, including: Obtaining his driver's license; successfully participating in a paid work experience; completing basic training the summer prior to his senior year of high school; graduating high school; purchasing, insuring, and fixing up a vehicle; gaining unsubsidized employment; moving out of his parents' home into his own apartment; completing Advanced

Individualized Training (AIT) with the Army; obtaining commercial driver's license (CDL); and applying at Iowa Lakes Technical College for the Wind Turbine Technician AAS degree program.

Today, Austin is living on campus in Estherville, Iowa and attending classes towards his AAS degree. Additionally, he attends monthly weekend drills at Fort Snelling. Through his own determination and work ethic, we know Austin will continue on and will reach the goals he continues to set for himself.

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