**Success Stories**

**John** is 17 and has a developmental cognitive disability. He came to SWMNPIC interested in finding a job to help increase his confidence and learn employability skills. John began working with the City of Adrian as a maintenance assistant. Since working for the City, John has gotten his driver’s license and started driving golf carts and lawn mowers. John’s goal is to own and operate his own pheasant farm and take over the family farm when his father retires.

**Howard** enrolled in YES Duluth in October 2017. He struggled to keep on track with school and needed assistance with obtaining employment. Through the program, Howard received service learning credits that helped him earn his diploma in spring of 2018. With help from his YES Duluth counselor, he started at Lake Superior College in fall of 2018. Howard has completed his goals with YES Duluth and is excited to work toward achieving a college education.

**Jessica** was referred to Carver County’s Summer Youth Employment Program by Vocational Rehabilitation Services. During her 2nd year she worked at Freedom Farm Therapeutic Riding Center. After the summer she was hired full time at a grocery story as a baking specialist and she hopes to continue volunteering with Freedom Farm. She is also looking to go to college for EMT training next year.

**Brandon** is a junior at Washburn Senior High. He was a Step Up intern at Minnesota Alliance with Youth where he was the project lead on the Youth Education Leadership Summit 2018. On this project, he learned how to effectively network and coordinate large groups of partners. When Brandon graduates high school he plans to go to college to study psychology and join the Navy. He also plans to come back to Step Up for a second summer to build on his work skills.

**Kendrick** came to the Anoka County Job Training Center at the end of his last year in high school seeking a career in the automotive industry. With the help of Career Counselors and his interest in automotive dismantling, Kendrick was offered a full time position at A-ABCO Auto Parts as an Automotive Dismantler. Although it is challenging at times, the supportive staff and the continuous training makes him really like his job.
Emily “My experience at CareerOne was one of the best experiences I’ve had at any program.” Emily was very interested in the money smart component of CareerOne. There she learned the differences between a debit and credit card and how finances and loans help people out in college. Before CareerOne Emily didn’t give college any thought but now she is getting ready and preparing herself for college after graduation.

Carter came to MVAC wanting to get a job and have it written in his IEP. He didn’t see school for him and enrolled in MVAC’s Young Adult Program and got a job at True Value Hardware. Thanks to collaboration between Carter’s school and MVAC, his needs are being met through the process and the two parties keep him motivated in both school and work.

Jesus participated in Scott County’s Summer Youth Program. There he worked at the Youthbuild worksite where he gained valuable experience and skills along with high school credit to graduate. His goal has always been to become an auto mechanic. After graduating from high school, Jesus started working a full time job at Big O Tires as a Tire Technician.

Allie first came into the RMCEP Youth Program in 2016 getting poor grades and never had a job. While participating in the MYP and WIOA In-School Youth programs, RMCEP staff helped create a comprehensive career plan. After being named Minnesota Youth of the Year by the Bemidji Boys and Girls club, she received a $15,000 scholarship and is now pursuing a degree in psychology and social work at the U of M Duluth with hopes of becoming a social worker for at risk youth.

Ryan excelled over the summer at Tree Trust. While working with a team of seven other youth, they completed a timber staircase at a local park. He was even nominated to receive the highest award for youth at Tree Trust. Ryan enjoyed his summer so much he enrolled in Tree Trust’s Green Teens program that runs during the school year and teaches youth about careers in green industries.

HOW MYP INTERACTS WITH OTHER PROGRAMS:
● MYP allows services to in-school youth; now that the federal WIOA Youth Program targets services to out-of-school youth and dropouts. MYP also allows youth enrollment in standalone summer programs (unlike the federal WIOA Youth Program).
● MYP allows the youth workforce system to respond quickly to additional opportunities to offer youth summer and year-round employment when other funding sources become available. For example, MYP’s teen parent participants may be co-enrolled in TANF projects and MYP participants with disabilities may be co-enrolled in Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) Pre-Employment Transition Services programming.

OUTREACH TO SCHOOLS/CAREER ADVISOR COMPONENT
The Outreach to Schools/Career Advisor Component of MYP provides high school students much needed one-on-one and group career guidance and career exploration of in-demand jobs, emphasizing services to youth who are under-represented in the workforce. Each school district identifies career services most needed in their area. MYP assists in providing those services and helping meet district requirements for the “World’s Best Workforce”. Through the Outreach to Schools/ Career advisor component, the following goals are addressed:
● Assist high school students in selecting a career of interest to the student and a post-secondary path to prepare for that career;
● Provide effective career counseling and labor market information to the region’s youth and families in collaboration with school counselors;
● Build on the work of the Local Workforce Development Boards in identifying strategic industries and high-growth, in-demand occupations;
● Raise local youth and parent awareness and usage of Minnesota’s workforce development system and engage local workforce, education and economic development partners.

Statutory authority: MN Statutes 116L.56
For more information:
Kay Tracy, Director
Office of Youth Development,
MN Department of Employment and Economic Development
Phone: 651.259.7555

mn.gov/deed/myp

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