



# SW MN Private Industry Council

## WSA 6 - Youth Programs

FEBRUARY - APRIL 2013

VOLUME 3 : ISSUE 3

We're on the Web!  
[www.swmnpic.org](http://www.swmnpic.org)

Explore!  
[www.swmncareers.org](http://www.swmncareers.org)

### College Connector Certification

The five member team coordinated through the SW MN Private Industry Council began the six month journey to becoming a College Connector Certified Site. Through the process, gaps in College Access in our Southwest Minnesota Region will be identified as the team meets in St. Paul. Ten teams total from the state meet each month for training and commu-

nity learning. Each member of the team will also become individually certified in key areas. This is a true group effort with representatives from the following organizations: Minnesota West Community and Technical College, SW/WC Service Cooperative, SW MN Private Industry Council, Upward Bound/Southwest Minnesota State University, Yellow Medi-

cine County Integration Collaborative. The team will be coordinating with a larger group in our region to address the gaps. The ultimate result will be a successful implementation plan. The College Connector Certification is a Minnesota Minority Education Partnership (MMEP) Initiative.



The team, as instructed, wearing college gear reflecting their own College Path.  
From Left: Terri Collins (SW/WC Service Coop, Amy Nemitz (Upward Bound/SMSU), Jodi Landgaard (Minnesota West), Robin Henderson (YM County Integration Collaborative), Kati Birhanzl (SW MN PIC)

# Breaking Traditions - 19th Year!



Students explore Health Care at Minnesota West—Luverne

**Breaking Traditions** is an annual event sponsored by Minnesota West Community and Technical College, and the Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council. The event is designed to encourage high school students to consider a variety of career paths.

**Breaking Traditions** is in its 19th year, and each year expands to give participants more opportunities to explore careers through hands-on exploration as well as

tours of program areas offered at Minnesota West campuses. Each campus offers unique programs and features different activities. High schools are encouraged to choose a campus to tour that reflects the interests of the majority of students.

94 students from the local Alternative Learning Centers visited the campus of Minnesota West Community & Technical College -

Jackson, Pipestone, Granite Falls & Canby and the Luverne Center. While on campus the students learned about the college admission process, financial aid and were able to do hands on activities in a majority of the programs as offered at Minnesota West Campuses; from Healthcare to Carpentry and Cosmetology to Auto Mechanics.



Youth Rally at the State Capitol

## Youth Rally 2013

On March 13th, 2013, two Youth Program Coordinators took two youth from the Youth Focus Group to the State Capitol in an effort to rally for support of Youth Programs across the state as well as visit one-on-one with local House Representatives and State Senators. At this trip we

were given the privilege to meet with Senator Gary Dahms and House Representative Andrew Falk.

The Youth were able to meet with Senator Dahms while he was in session. They were able to witness first hand the fast paced nature of politics.

The youth shared their involvement in the Youth Programs as well as shared some program numbers and success stories from youth in the program.

## Camps to Careers

The SW MN Private Industry Council is preparing for the 3rd Year of Camps to Careers.

We are in the preparation stages and are working with Minnesota West Community and Technical College to offer one full day hands career exploration in the field of Fluid Power! Please look for future

communication as the event draws near. If you have any questions or are interested in participating contact your local Youth Program Coordinator!

M A Y 2 5 , 2 0 1 3



Awards to top  
3 in Each Age  
Group

# “You Pick” Race

Run/Walk/Bike

When: Saturday, May 25th @ 8 a.m.

Where: Independence Park Marshall, MN

Races: 5K walk/run or 5K bike race

Registration forms can be picked up at

Lyon County Government Center

Western Community Action (Marshall)

YMCA (Marshall)

Anytime Fitness (Marshall)

Or email [growingandgoing1@gmail.com](mailto:growingandgoing1@gmail.com) and have one mailed to you

Growing and Going is an opportunity for girls, ages 12-18 in Lyon County, to participate in a projects that provide mentorship and entrepreneurial training to achieve academic success as well as develop business, financial literacy, leadership and public advocacy skills through a girl-led small business model.



**The Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council, Inc. (SW MN PIC) is a private, non-profit organization which provides employment and training services to residents and businesses across Southwestern Minnesota.**

**With a highly qualified, professional staff and office locations in Montevideo, Marshall, and Worthington, the SW MN PIC provides job training, assessments, and various employment services to hundreds of residents and many businesses across our fourteen county workforce service area every year.**

**The Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council, Inc. (SW MN PIC) is a private nonprofit corporation which was created October 1, 1983 and began operations in 1985 under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) authorized by Congress to administer and operate job training programs in a 14 county area of Southwestern Minnesota. These counties include Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, Swift, and Yellow Medicine.**