



News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

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Blackwell Job Corps, CESA 8, and Congressman Kagen host “Jobs and Education Northwoods Summit”

Park Falls and Rhinelander, Wisc. – March 6, 2007. On February 22, Blackwell Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center was the site for a “Jobs and Education Northwoods Summit” hosted by newly elected Congressman Steve Kagen, CESA 8 Administrator Dr. Bob Kellog, and Blackwell JCCCC Center Director, Jason Maloney.

Well over 30 public school administrators, community members, and elected officials arrived on the Center for lunch, a guided tour, and a listening session with Kagen. The group enjoyed the usual hearty lunch found at Blackwell, and toured several of the technical training areas, the new education building, and finalized the tour at the new girl’s dormitory.

Throughout the tour, students were on hand to answer questions, and later had the opportunity to ask the Congressman some serious questions about critical issues such as health care, the Iraq war, and assistance for single parents. All on hand for the tour were very impressed with the Center, its staff, and the students for their professionalism and commitment to the Job Corps Program. Kagen commented, “This is a tremendous facility, and it’s a great opportunity for children and young students to get an education that’s meaningful and practical.”



Tile setting students from left to right with Kagen and instructor: Valencia Morton, Shaun Slack, Marissa Cook, Jermia Millsap, Jeremy Huenerberg, Congressman Kagen, Jeremiah Murphy (instructor), Dante Brown, and Eric Feder.

According to Maloney, "Representative Kagen's full support of Blackwell JCCCC is tangible evidence of his commitment to education. The Job Corps program is the only Federal scholarship program for disadvantaged youth of its kind in the nation. Good people come to Job Corps to lay the foundation to accomplish great things."

About Blackwell Job Corps

Blackwell Job Corps, located approximately 8 miles southeast of Laona, was established as a Civilian Conservation Center in 1965. The Center is funded by the Department of Labor and operated by Forest Service employees from the Chequamegon-Nicolet NF. The Center offers

hands-on technical training in the careers of bricklaying, business technologies, carpentry, construction crafts, electrical, health occupations, painting, and welding. The Center also gives students the opportunity to earn their High School Equivalency Diploma, helps them with a personalized career development plan, and provides Work-based learning opportunities. Currently, 205 men and women are housed at the Center in separate dormitories. The Center provides all meals, limited medical and dental care, work clothing, and a clothing allowance for personal clothing that complement their training and better prepare them for a job. Students also receive a living allowance that allows them to purchase personal items.

Blackwell is one of 19 Job Corps Centers operated by the USDA Forest Service. The program is open to young adults under the age of 25 who meet income requirements; and are ready, willing and able to participate fully in an educational environment. For information on enrolling in the Job Corps program, call 800-733-JOBS or visit them on the web at <http://chicagoregion.jobcorps.gov/>