



## VILAS COUNTY JUVENILE INTAKE

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### **Area Youth Achieve Success at Wisconsin Challenge Academy**

You're on Juvenile Supervision? What did you do? Are you a delinquent now? These are some of many questions heard by children who have been found to be a delinquent child under the eyes of Wisconsin State Law. However, many people perceive each child to be such a trouble maker and want him/her out of their community. What about rehabilitation? Does this particular child have a chance to prove that it was only a mistake?

There are success stories that are a part of the Vilas County Juvenile Intake Department. Every day, children are taking positive steps to correct certain behaviors and this story is about proving to others and themselves that positive steps in life lead to a fulfilling accomplishment.

On December 19, 2009, two cadets walked across a stage at Mauston High School to receive their Certificate of Completion from the Wisconsin Challenge Academy. This particular academy is a 17-month program that is divided into two phases and run by the Wisconsin National Guard at Fort McCoy. The two cadets spent 5½ months at Fort McCoy in the Residential Phase, focusing on eight core components: Academic Excellence, Job Skills, Physical Fitness, Leadership/Followership, Health, Life-Coping Skills, Responsible Citizenship and Service to their Community.

The program is designed for all cadets in the program to succeed, but there were some cadets that did not want to change, therefore, were discharged from the Academy. Not so for two cadets from Lac Du Flambeau. These two cadets were focused on changing their lives for

the better and dedicated all their time to the Challenge Academy. Not only did these cadets complete the Residential Phase, they earned high honors in two of the core components, Physical Fitness and Leadership. Now in the Post-Residential Phase, these two cadets will follow a strict Action Plan, which will be supervised by their mentors. Mentors will provide the Challenge Academy with monthly reports of their successes while back in their community.

Congratulations to both Cadets on a very high achievement. Vilas County Juvenile Intake is very proud of both cadets and wishes them the very best of luck in future endeavors.

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