



Our community is faced with many of the challenges that accompany the aspects of a growing area. The Youth Leadership Institute (FCYLI) addresses those aspects and exposes our county's youth to opportunities for community involvement and improvement.

PROGRAM CONCEPT:

- The youth program represents a cooperative effort between the Faulkner County Leadership Institute, the Boys and Girls Club of Faulkner County and school districts throughout the community.
- FCYLI is designed to help develop leadership potential within 11th and 12th grade students.
- Youth Leadership Institute addresses the challenges and opportunities of our community and exposes high school age young people to avenues for community involvement and improvement.
- Enrollment is open to students who are high school juniors and seniors in Faulkner County. Teachers, parents and others are encouraged to nominate students and encourage them to apply. Applications are taken in January and February, with selection made in March.
- Each class ranges from 25 to 35 students representing a broad cross-section of the community. Special effort is made to ensure a diverse group is selected.

DESCRIPTION

- FCYLI is a school-year program consisting of an overnight retreat and eight monthly sessions, which include human services, education, media, health care, work world/economy, government/judicial and environment/agriculture.
- A community service project is a vital part of the curriculum.

BACKGROUND:

- The Faulkner County Youth Leadership Institute was started in 1995 by that year's Faulkner County Leadership Institute (FCLI) adult class.
- There are about 307 young people who have graduated from the program.
- FCYLI receives its primary funding from donations collected from FCLI graduates. (Outside donations are also accepted.)
- The Leadership Institute is a program of the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce.

GOALS:

- To develop leadership potential in high school students by promoting an atmosphere that will enrich students for leadership roles.
- To broaden the community awareness of each participant.
- To encourage active student participation in their community including service projects.
- Provide mentoring and career exploration opportunities in areas of vocational interest.

STEERING COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION:

- FCYLI is led by graduates of the adult leadership program.