The Chicano-Latino Youth Leadership Institute (ChYLI) is a culturally based positive youth development program that serves Chicano-Latino high school youth from south-central Minnesota. The ChYLI provides opportunities for youth to develop their leadership ability and enhance their educational outlook. ChYLI has four overarching goals:

- To build a network of young leaders in the Chicano-Latino population.
- To increase understanding of the Chicano-Latino culture.
- To involve Chicano-Latino youth in service learning opportunities, community decision-making and vision setting.
- To increase school connectedness and graduation rates among Chicano-Latino youth.

ChYLI youth participate in the annual “ChYLI Service Conference” at Gustavus Adolphus College to learn more about leadership and service. They also attend the “ChYLI Project Reconnect” program, a series of workshops during school that assists them in their academic goal setting and they implement a “ChYLI Action Plan” a service project that will help their school or community.

Currently the ChYLI is working with seven high schools in the area: St Peter High School, LeSeuer High School, Mankato East High School, Mankato West High School, Madelia High School, St James High School and Sleepy Eye High School.

The ChYLI is a program of the Gustavus Education Department. For more information please contact Veronica Alba at valba@gustavus.edu or 507-933-7198.