

Kootenai Alliance for Children and Families  
 Quarterly Progress Report  
 For March 2006-June 2006  
 By Contractors Caile Spear and Mary Pritchard

**Communities That Care Transition and Mobility Summit**

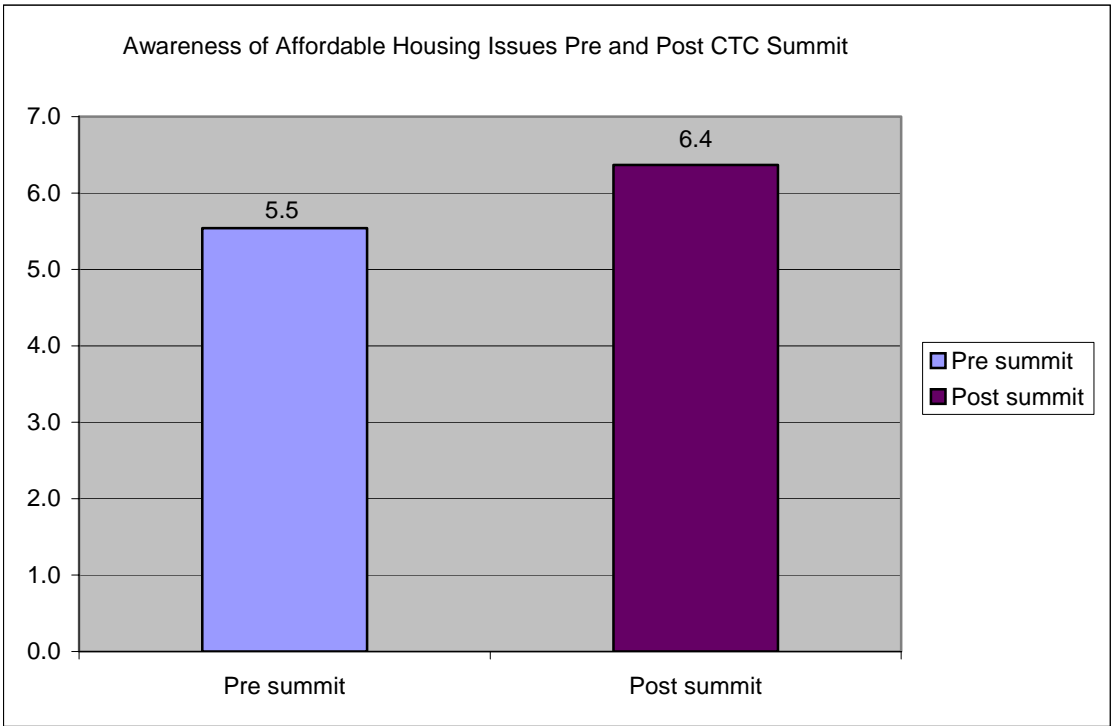
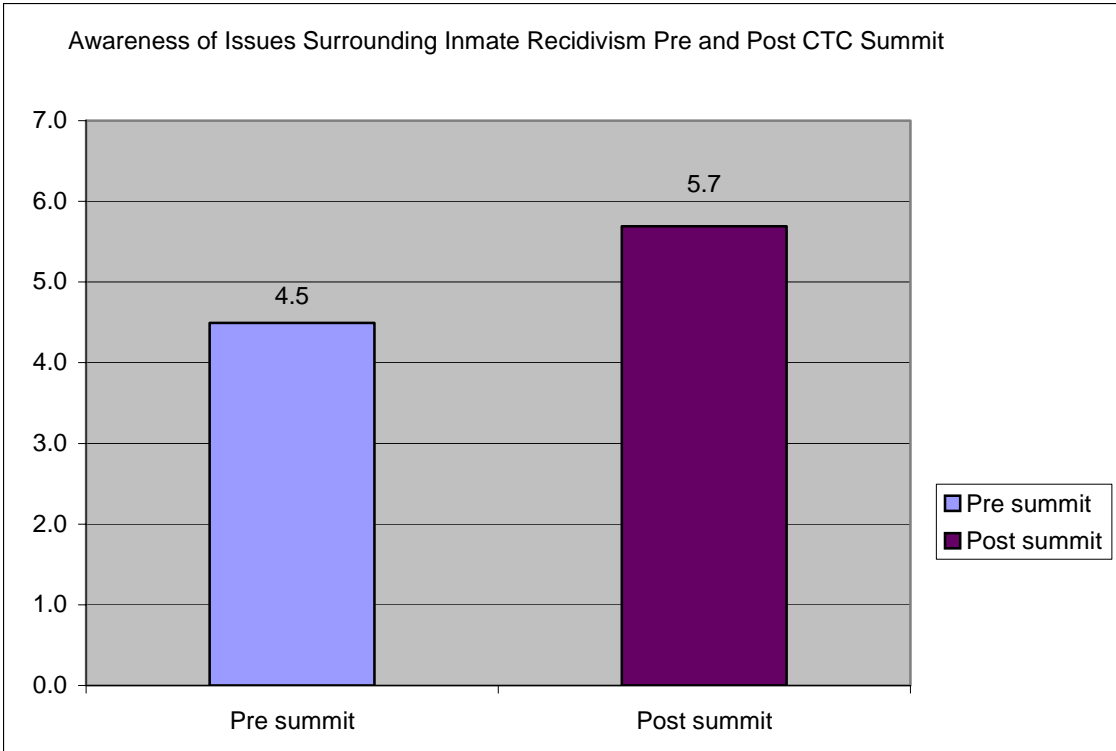
The Kootenai Alliance for Families and Children KAFC) hosted the Communities That Care (CTC) summit in May of 2006. The purpose of the summit was to “focus on specific outcomes and target specific populations, individual and community, that have an impact on the main issues of Transition and Mobility in Kootenai County, such as business, education and lawmakers.”. (CTC grant application, 2005)

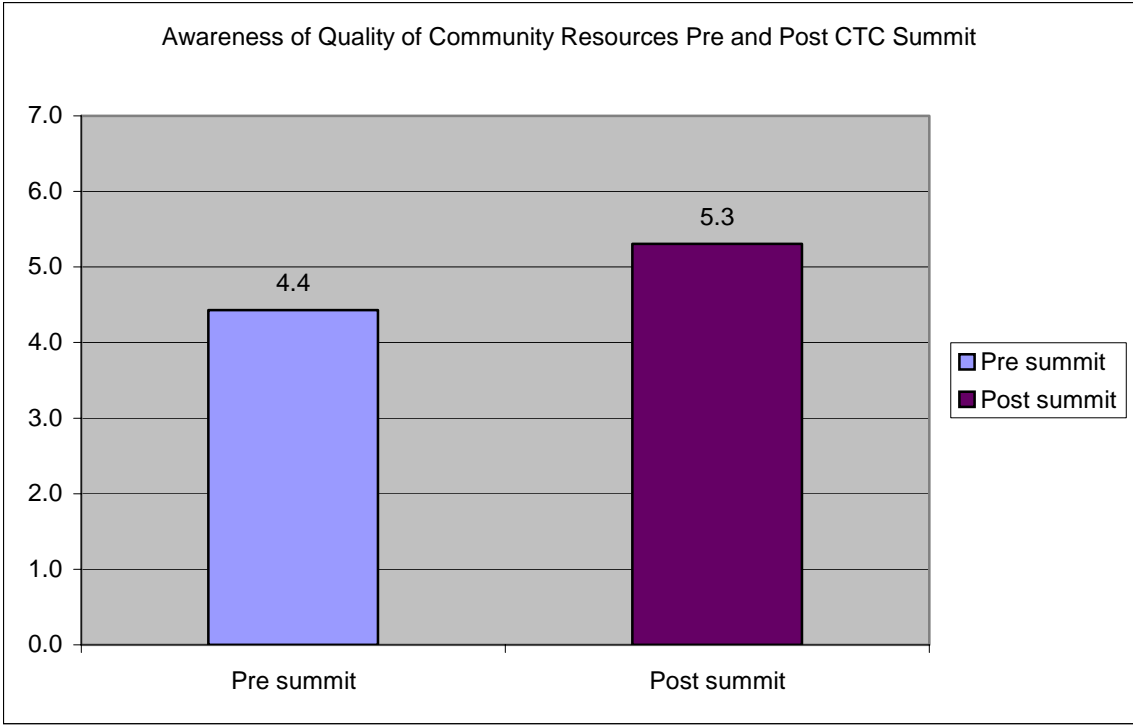
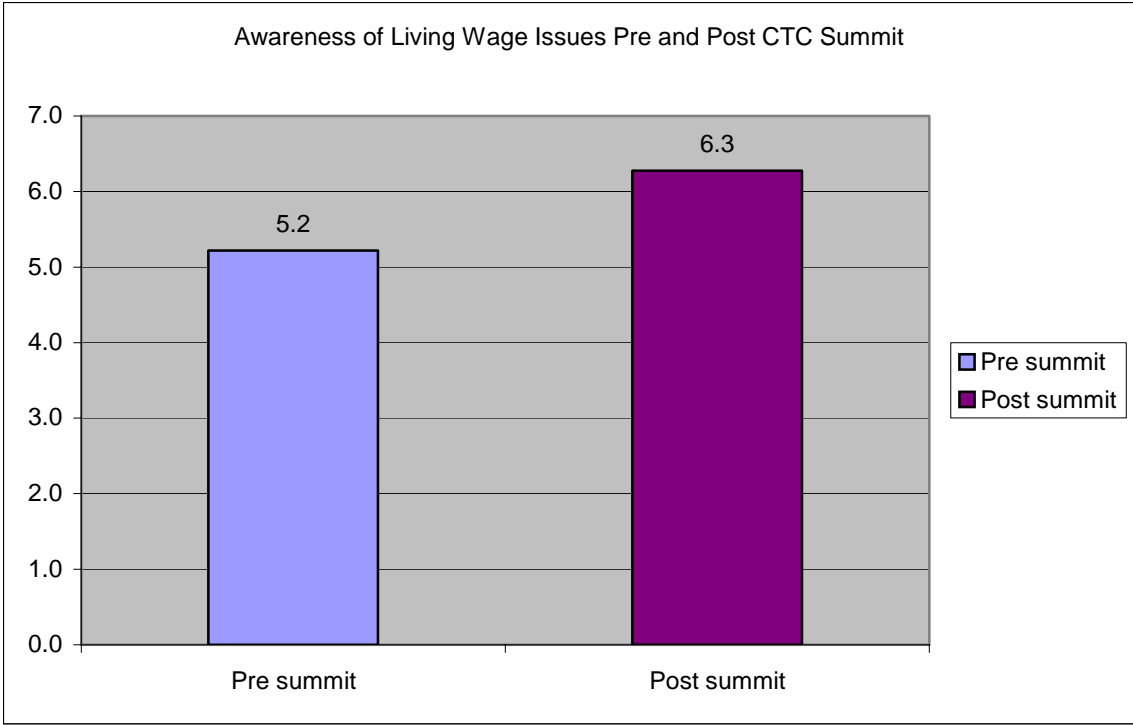
The survey questions focused on the specific outcomes of the summit, which were to educate and create awareness about the issues of transition and mobility. The six subtopics covered in the area of transportation and mobility include living wage issues, affordable housing, issues surrounding inmate recidivism, health issues, quality of community resources and how growth impacts the community.

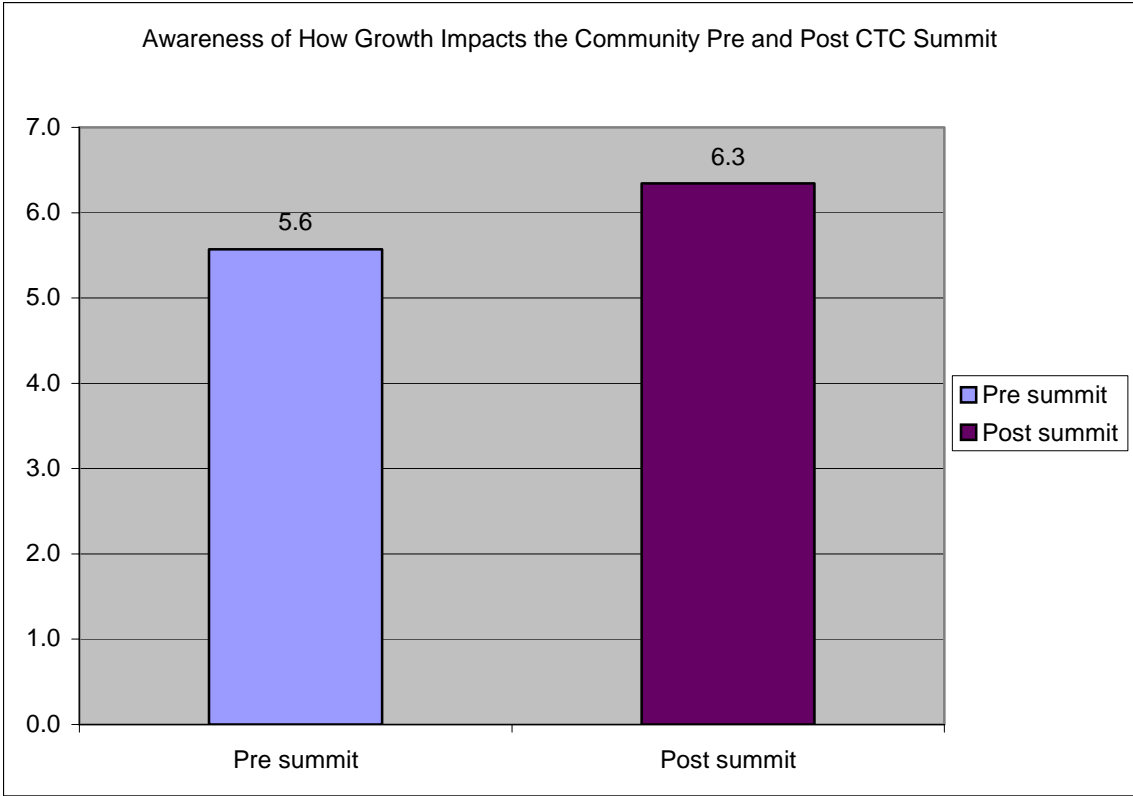
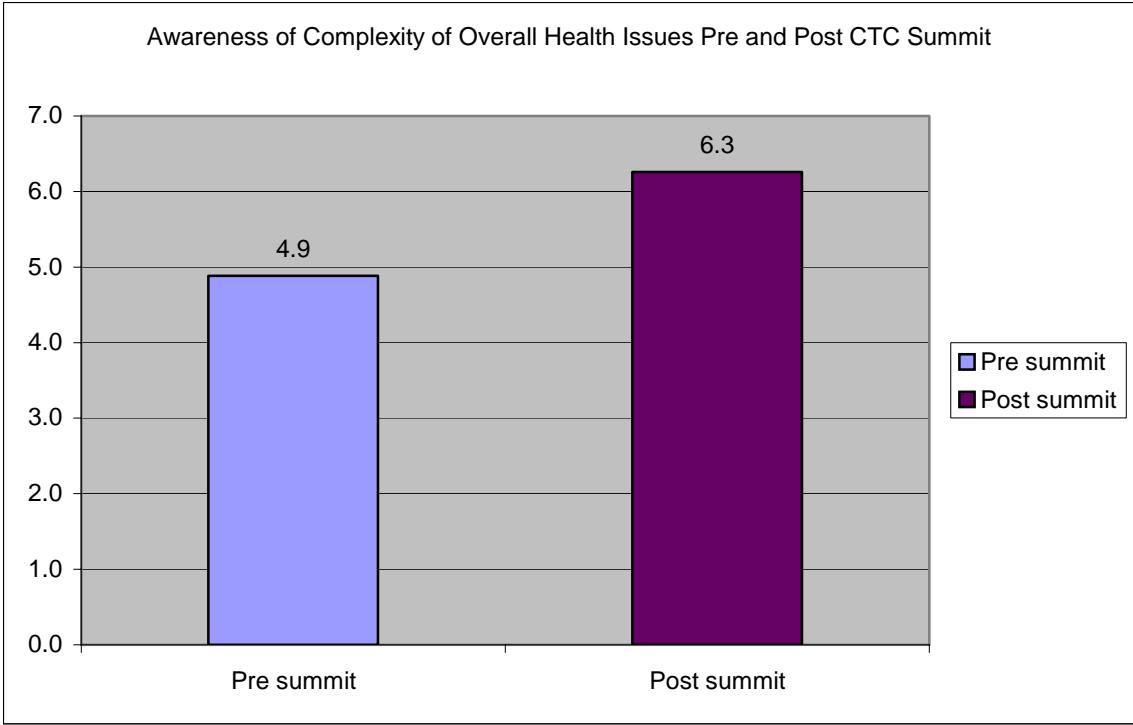
We developed a six question retrospective survey and the attendees completed the survey at the end of the summit. A retrospective survey is a one-time survey administered at the end of training or conference. Individuals reflect on their awareness or knowledge of a particular topic both before and after the training. The point is to assess how their knowledge or awareness has increased or decreased based on the information disseminated at the training. The benefit of a retrospective survey over a pre/post design is that the participant answers are based on the information provided at a particular training or conference and not what people think they know prior to a conference.

Survey data was collected and analyzed for 105 community summit participants. As displayed in the Table and Figures below, there were significant improvements in respondents awareness of all six issues including affordable housing,  $t(103) = 8.41, p < 001$ , awareness of issues surrounding inmate recidivism,  $t(102) = 9.69, p < 001$ , awareness of living wage issues,  $t(104) = 9.35, p < 001$ , beliefs about the quality of community resources,  $t(104) = 8.38, p < 001$ , awareness of how growth impacts the community,  $t(104) = 8.67, p < 001$ , and awareness of complexity of issues surrounding overall health,  $t(104) = 12.52, p < 001$ .

	Pre summit	Post summit
Awareness of issues surrounding inmate recidivism	4.5	5.7
Awareness of affordable housing issues	5.5	6.4
Awareness of living wage issues	5.2	6.3
Quality of community resources	4.4	5.3
Awareness of complexity of issues surrounding overall health	4.9	6.3
Awareness of how growth impacts the community	5.6	6.3







## *Conclusion*

One of the desired outcomes of the CTC summit was to increase awareness of six specific issues including inmate recidivism, affordable housing issues, living wage, quality of community resources, complexity of issues surrounding overall health, and how growth impacts the community. Based on the results of the retrospective surveys, the summit achieved its outcome and all the participants were more aware of the Transition and Mobility issues impacting Kootenai County. Your summit was successful in increasing the participants' awareness of these major issues.

We recognize that awareness does always lead to behavior change but the first step to creating change is creating awareness. The next step is to foster ongoing collaborative partnerships within the community and focus on programming that can positively impact these six issues. Follow-up with the partnering agencies to assess the status of their work groups and action plans would help KACF evaluate the each group's process and examine how the groups are "creating local, community solutions to address the separate issues of Transportation and Mobility." (CTC grant application, 2005).