



2018 Idaho Youth Leadership Forum

July 8th – 13th, Boise, Idaho

Summary Report

Summary Report 2018

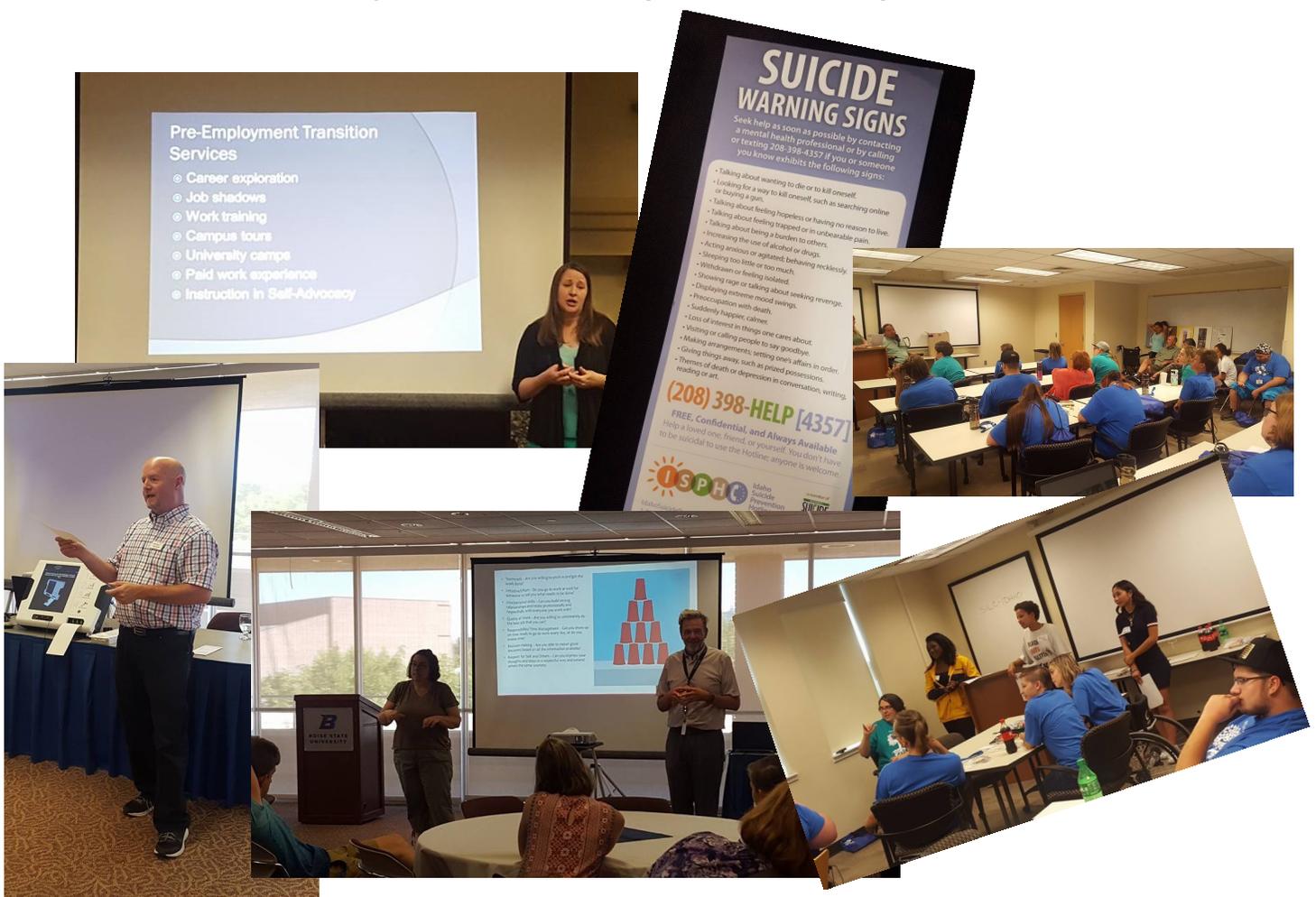
Idaho Youth Leadership Forum (IDYLF) for students and transitioning young adults who have disabilities was held at Boise State University on July 8-13, 2018. Representatives from 10 agencies, including several that have statewide service responsibility, participated in the planning and execution of IDYLF 2018.



"I have learned to organize my future goals better and work more towards creating a better future." 2018 graduate

Throughout the course of IDYLF, 10 youth referred to as Delegates, completed SMART Goals designed to clarify ideas, focus your efforts, use your time and resources productively, and increase your chances of achieving what you want in life. Delegates participated in small groups with consistent staff to assist and ensure that Delegates received their accommodations and were supported throughout the process. Two full time ASL Interpreters were present during all educational components of IDYLF. Delegates and staff were housed in the dormitory at BSU in Boise. In addition to the curriculum, presentations were given on the following topics, by the following presenters:

- Financial Literacy by Jerry Riener (SILC Staff)
- Disability History by Mel Leviton (SILC Executive Director)
- Leadership and Disability by Non Reyes (Former SILC Council member)
- Youth Leadership and Activism by Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence youth
- Emergency Preparedness by BSU Emergency Management
- College Prep Roundtable by Kendrick Lester (Department of Education), Jordan Lowenthal (University Student) and Amber Lindig (University Student)
- Setting and Reaching Goals by Dan Jordan (Business Owner)
- Disability Employment Initiative by Lance Kaldor and Sharon Clagg (Department of Labor)
- Voter Education by Scott Hoover (Disability Rights Idaho Staff) and Rick Huber (SILC Council Member)
- V.R. and You by Alison Lowenthal (Vocational Rehabilitation Staff)
- Building Your Story by Angela Lindig (Idaho Parents Unlimited Executive Director)
- Medicaid Services, Medicaid for Workers and Social Security by Tracy Warren (Developmental Disabilities Council Staff)
- Suicide Prevention by Michael Lefevor (Utah SILC Staff)



IDYLF 2018 included several educational and experiential opportunities away from the BSU Campus. Delegates took a tour of the Idaho State Capitol, had a Governor sighting, sat behind the Governor's desk and debated a topic of their choosing on the House floor. They also learned the importance of community service and spent a morning at the Boise Zoo learning about and mapping accessibility and entering the information into BluePath, an accessibility website.



*"It was so nice to be around others with disabilities, learn about them, and finally be accepted by everyone."
2018 graduate*



Delegates also spent an afternoon job shadowing in the profession of their choice. During the application process, Delegates were asked what their career goals were, and local employers partnered with IDYLF to give our Delegates a chance to experience their chosen career. Some of the job shadows included nursing, fine dining chef, veterinarian, pharmacist, mechanic, and athletic training. The feedback from the employers was positive and many of the employers stated they would welcome the Delegates back any time and were impressed with their willingness to learn and ask questions.



"I will go into my community and tell other youth how I advocate for myself, how I don't let my ability (disability) interfere with learning and how asking for help isn't always a bad thing."

2018 graduate

"I was very impressed with the level of questions that were asked of me. There was genuine interest and if the Delegate is ever in Boise again, I would welcome them back without hesitation."

Participating in this job shadow has been a great experience for the Delegate as well as myself."

Employer 2018



All Delegates received a workbook containing the comprehensive IDYLF curriculum, an emergency preparedness kit, a set of sample checks, and an IDYLF t-shirt. Facilitated by IDYLF Staff, each Delegate participated in a 6 day financial literacy project and developed their own individualized, SMART goals to work on.



Demographic Information:

A total of 10 youth who have disabilities participated in and completed IDYLF 2018.

Pre and Post IDYLF Surveys were completed by the 10 Delegates. The following is a summary of the data collected:

The gender composition of the youth was as follows:	Male=50% Female=50%
The current grade or level of education reported by the youth was as follows:	Sophomore=0% Junior=20% Senior=40% High School Graduate/Not in School=0% GED/Post-Secondary Transition Program=20% Some College/Technical/Vocational School=20%
The ethnicity or ethnicities per self-report of the youth was:	American Indian=0% Asian/Pacific Islander=0% Black/African American=10% Caucasian/White=100% Hispanic/Latino=0% Alaska/Hawaii Native=0%
The disability or disabilities per self-report of the youth is as follows:	Learning=50% Cerebral Palsy=20% Mental Health=0% Cognitive/Developmental/Intellectual=30% Vision=0% Hearing=10% Genetic=0% Autism Spectrum Disability=10% Neurological=10% Musculoskeletal/Physical=30% Acquired=0% Seizure=0%
The Idaho County representation was as follows:	Ada=30% Nez Perce=20% Bonneville=20% Twin Falls=10% Bannock=10% Kootenai= 10%
Prior to IDYLF 50% of the youth who participated, rarely or never made an overnight trip without their parent.	

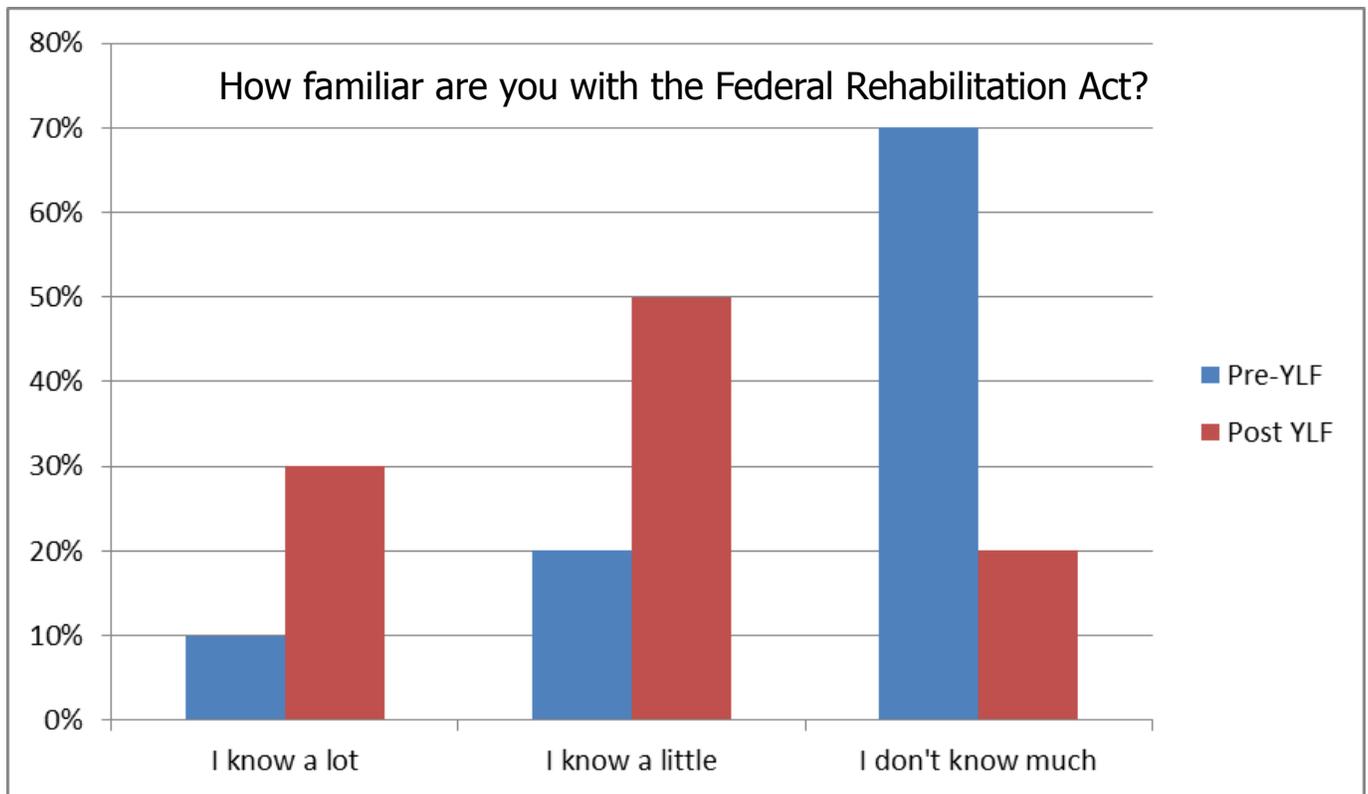
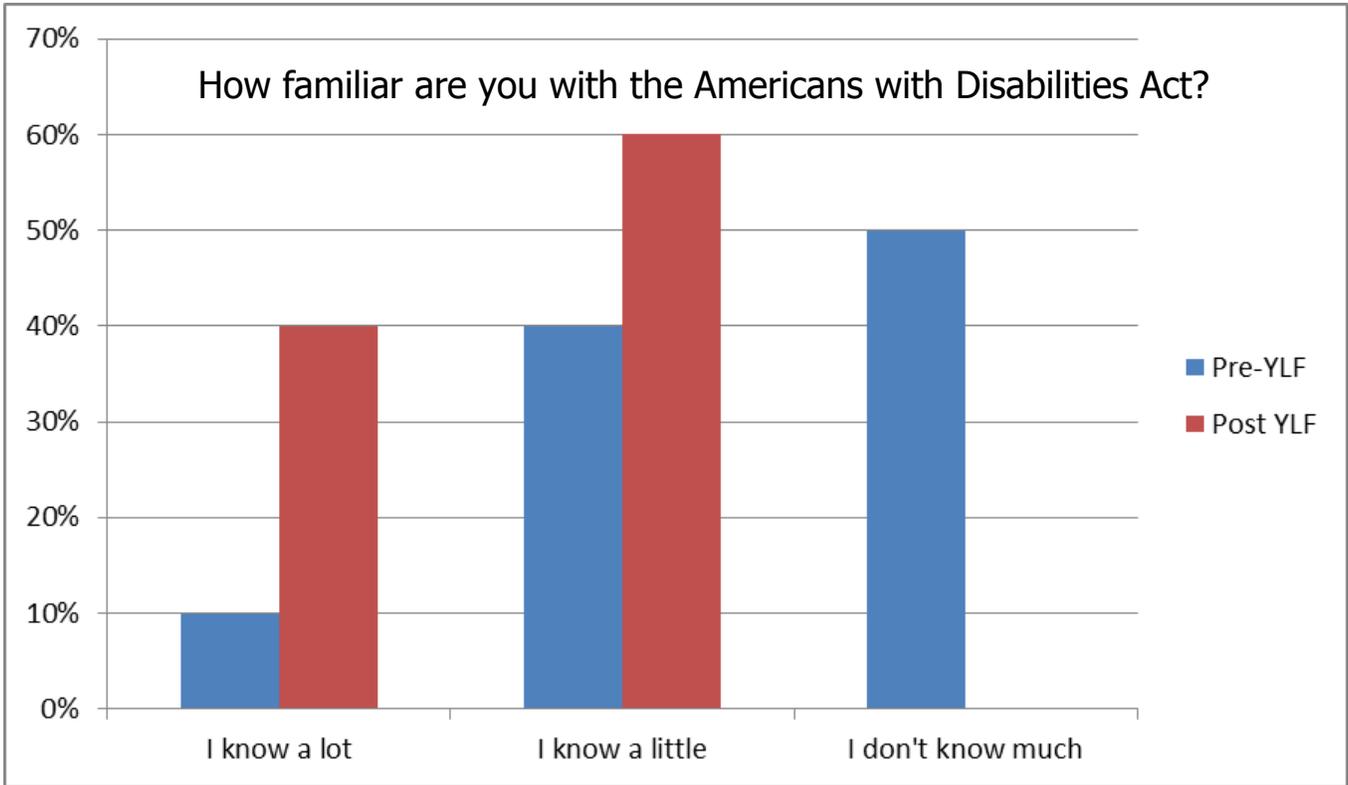
Findings

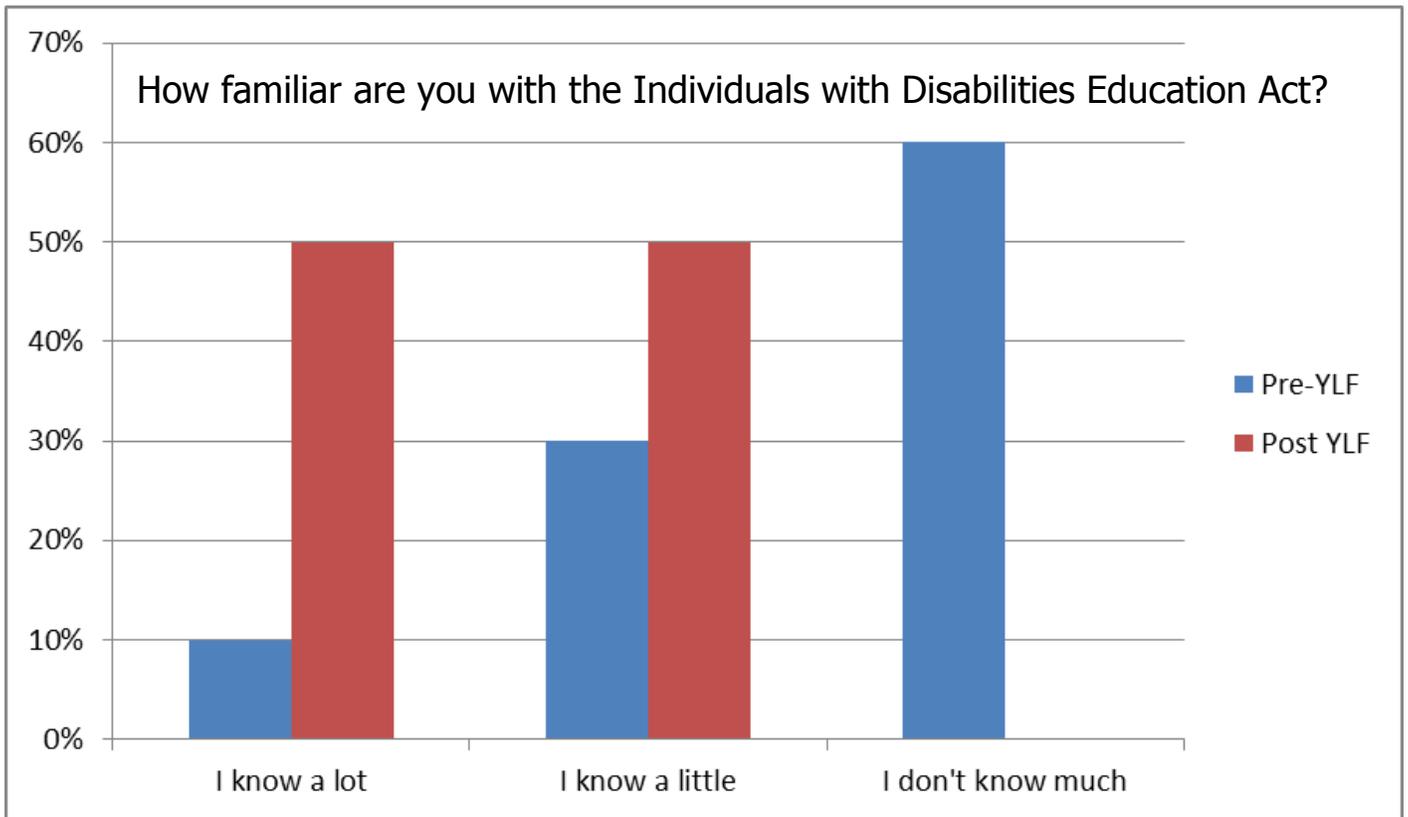
According to the self-report, 50% of the youth who participated in IDYLF 2018, receive benefits from Social Security Administration, 70% receive services from Vocational Rehabilitation, 30% receive Mental Health Counseling, 20% receive Employment Services, and 30% receive Independent Living Center Services.

In regard to post high school plans, 30% of youth who participated in IDYLF plan to attend community college, 20% plan to attend a four year college, 10% plan to attend vocational or technical school, 10% plan to engage in employment, 30% plan to pursue an advanced college degree, and 0% plan to participate in adult education. In regard to career plans, 100% of youth who participated in IDYLF have identified an area of interest, while 0% have not.

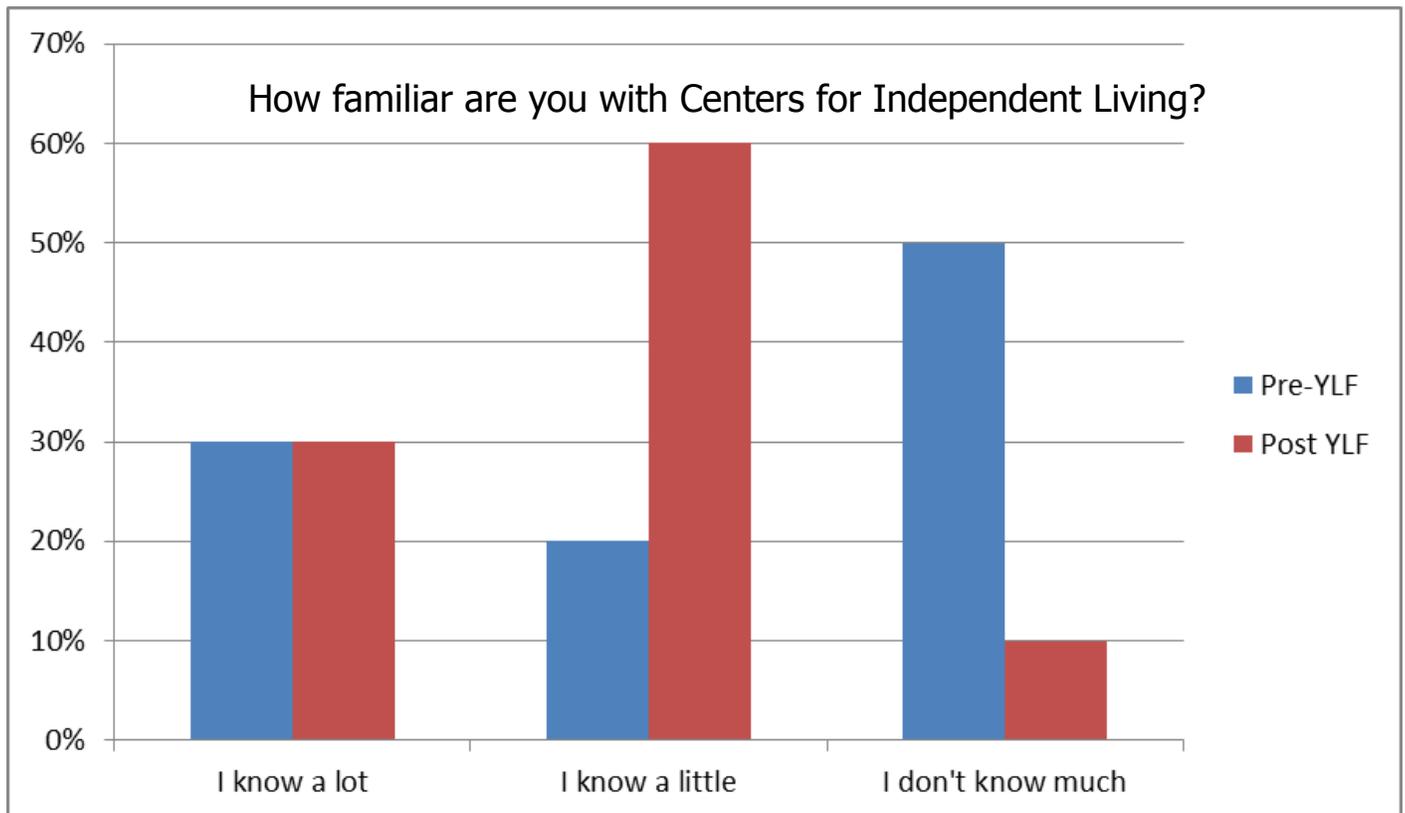


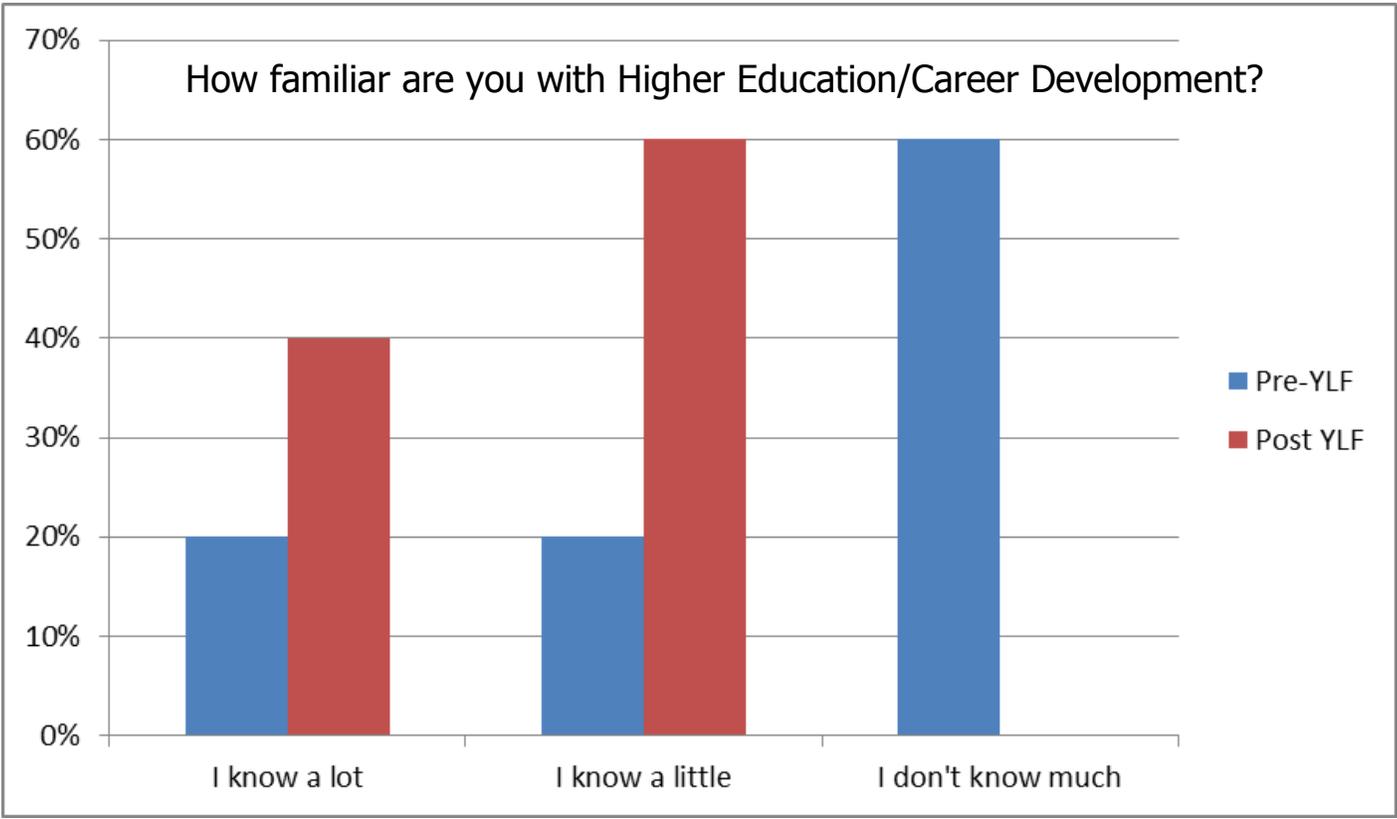
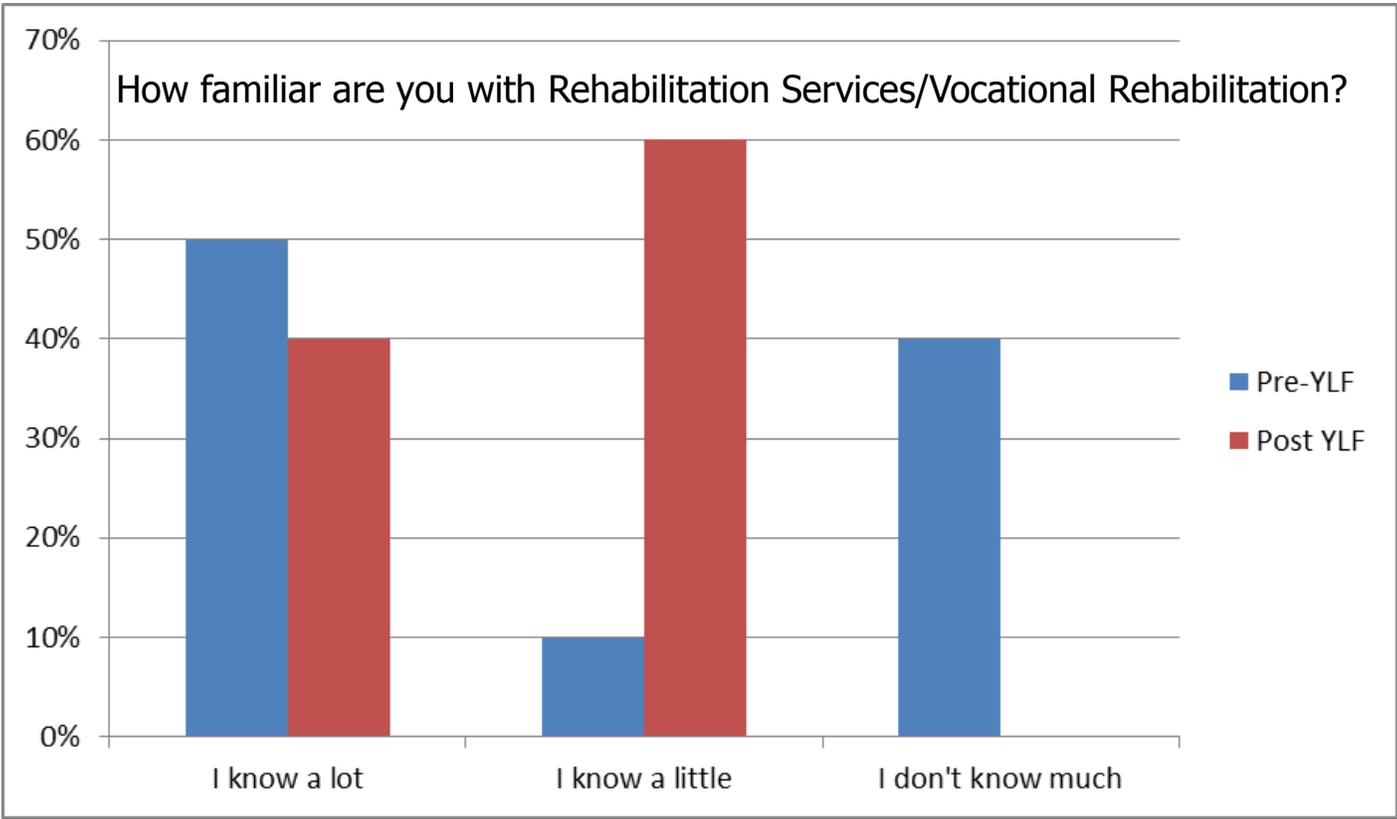
The following is a comparison of Pre and Post-IDYLF Survey results:

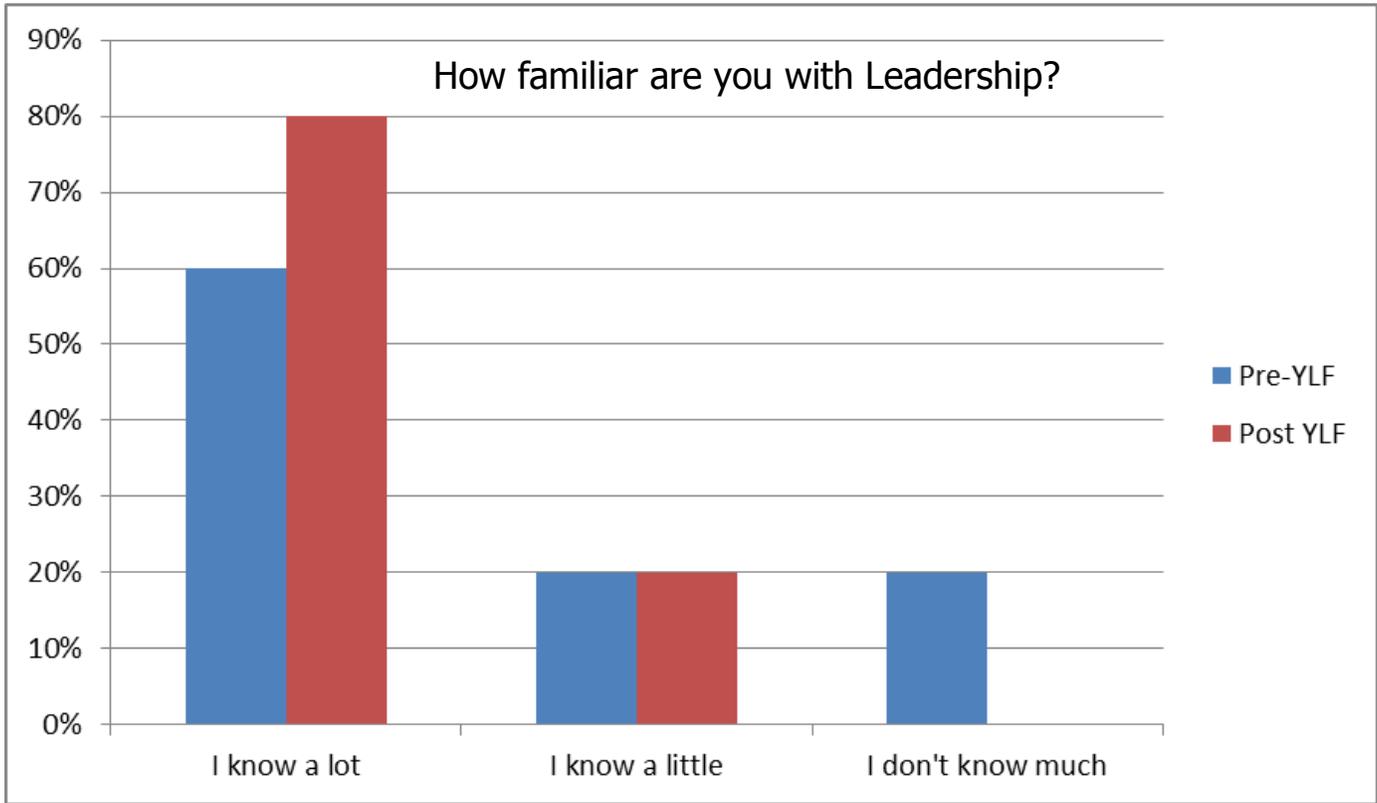




"I learned to advocate by being respectfully assertive and not aggressive or passive"
 2018 graduate







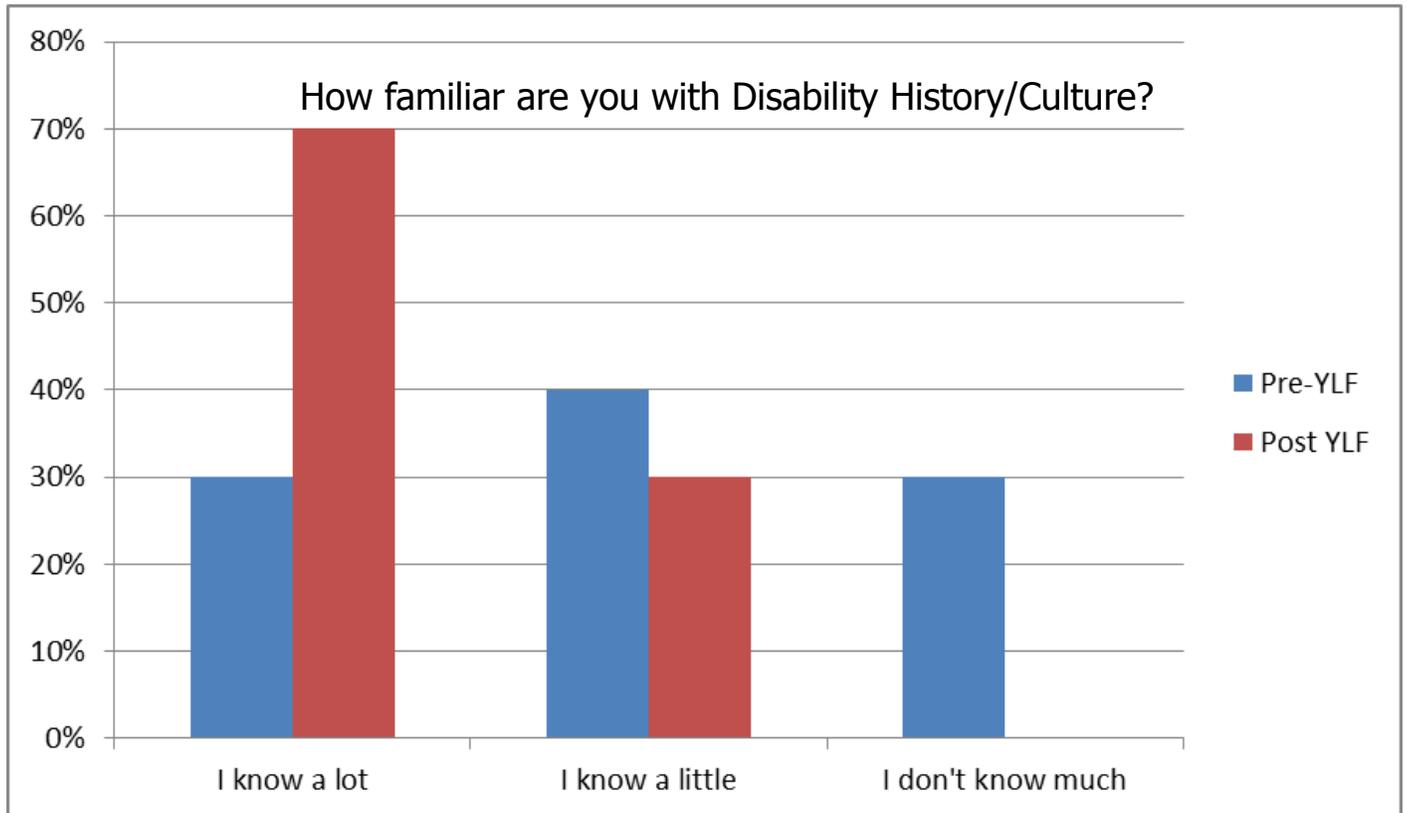
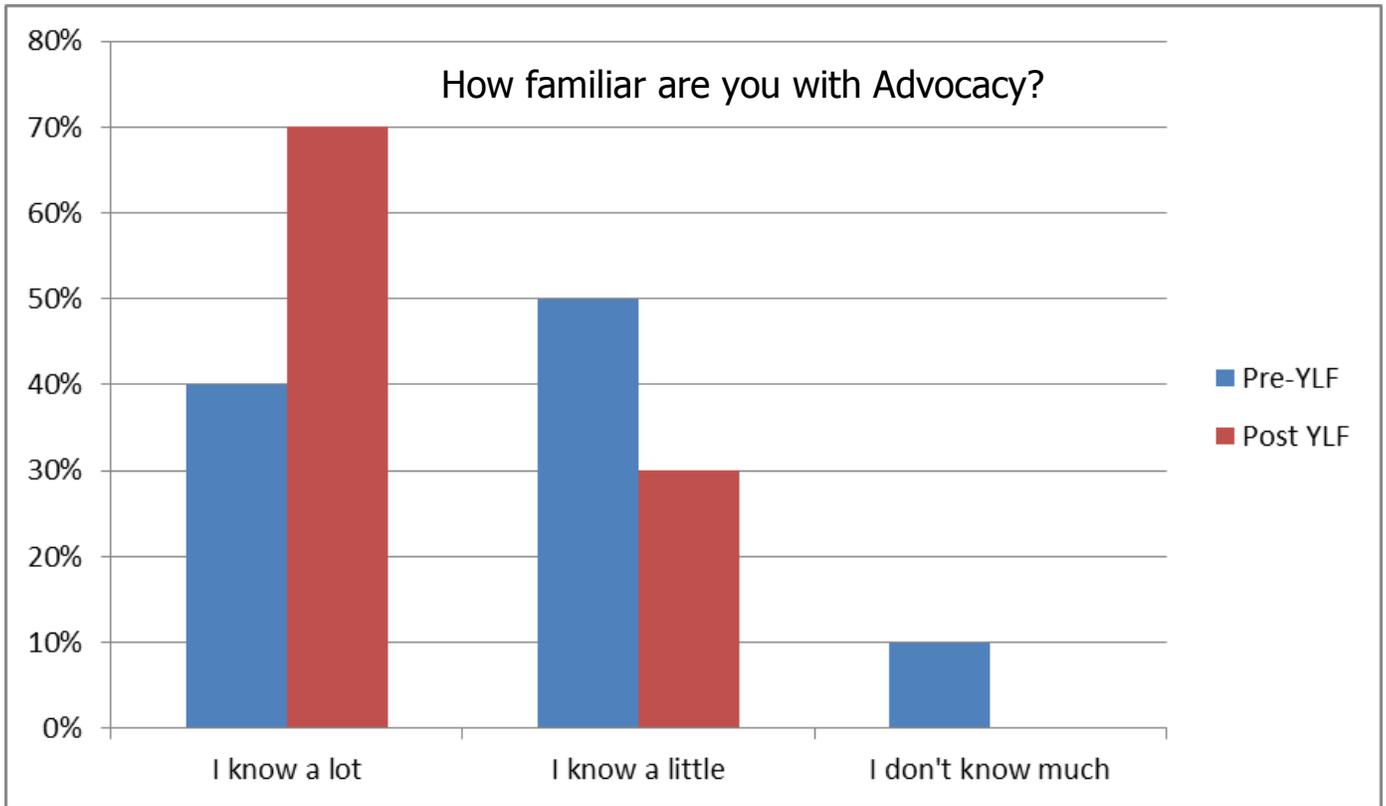
ALONG CAME THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT...

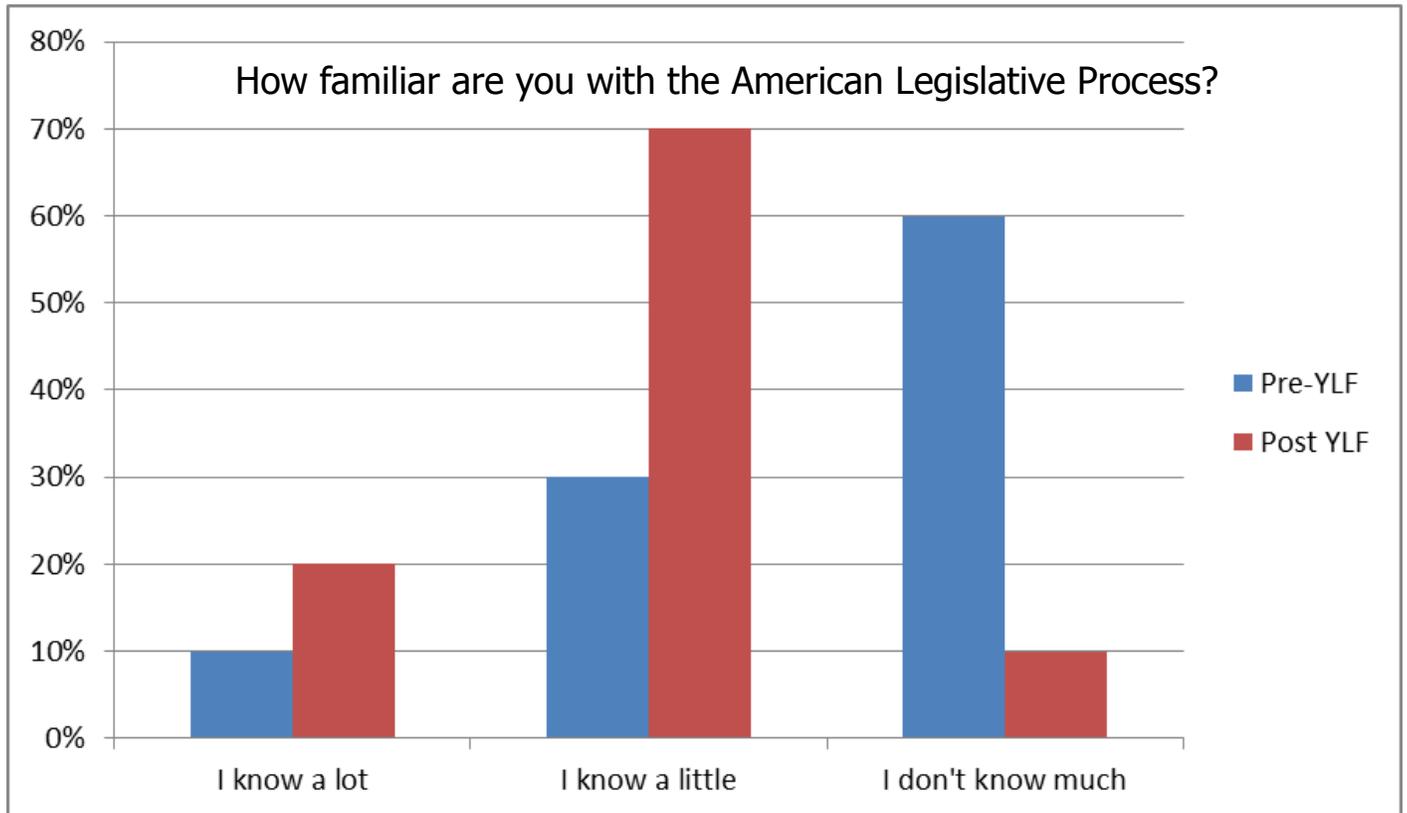
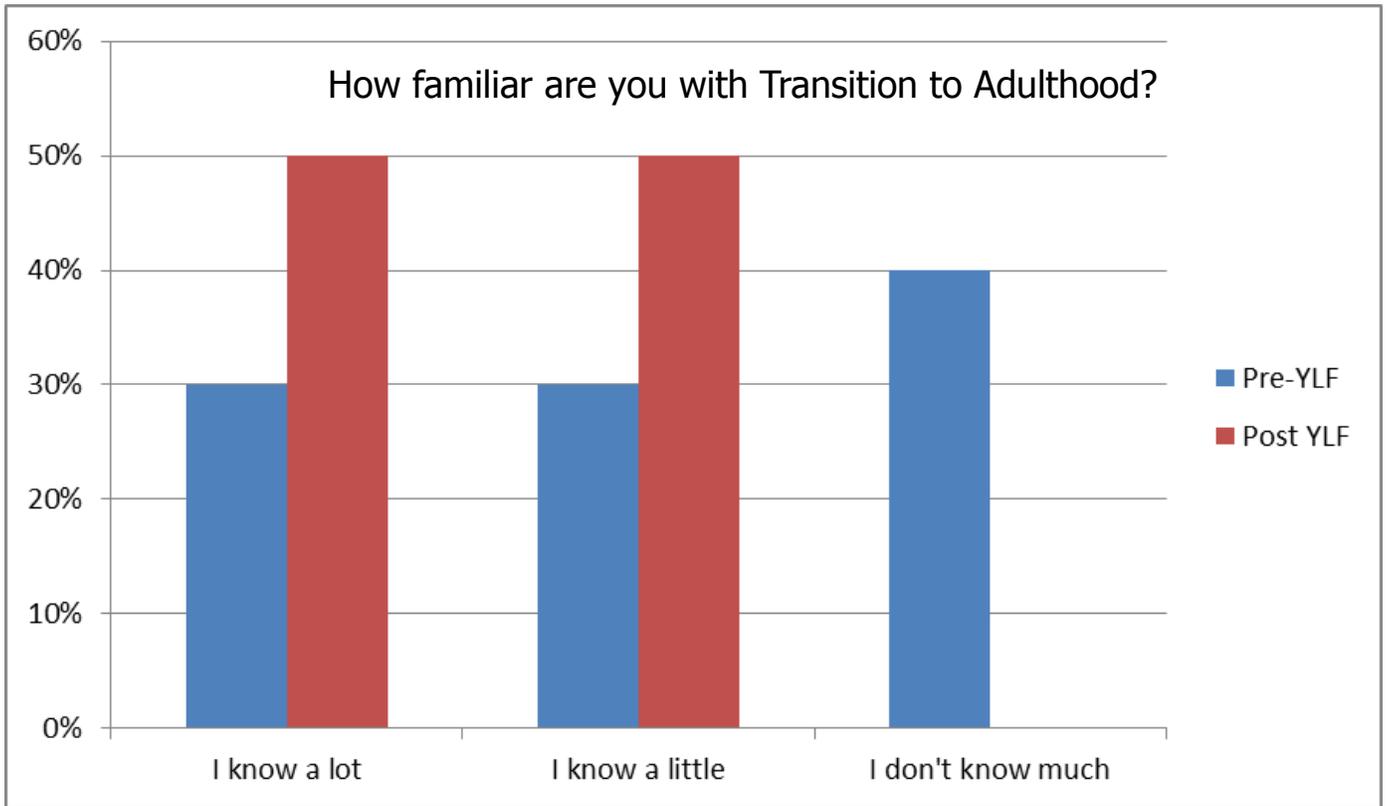


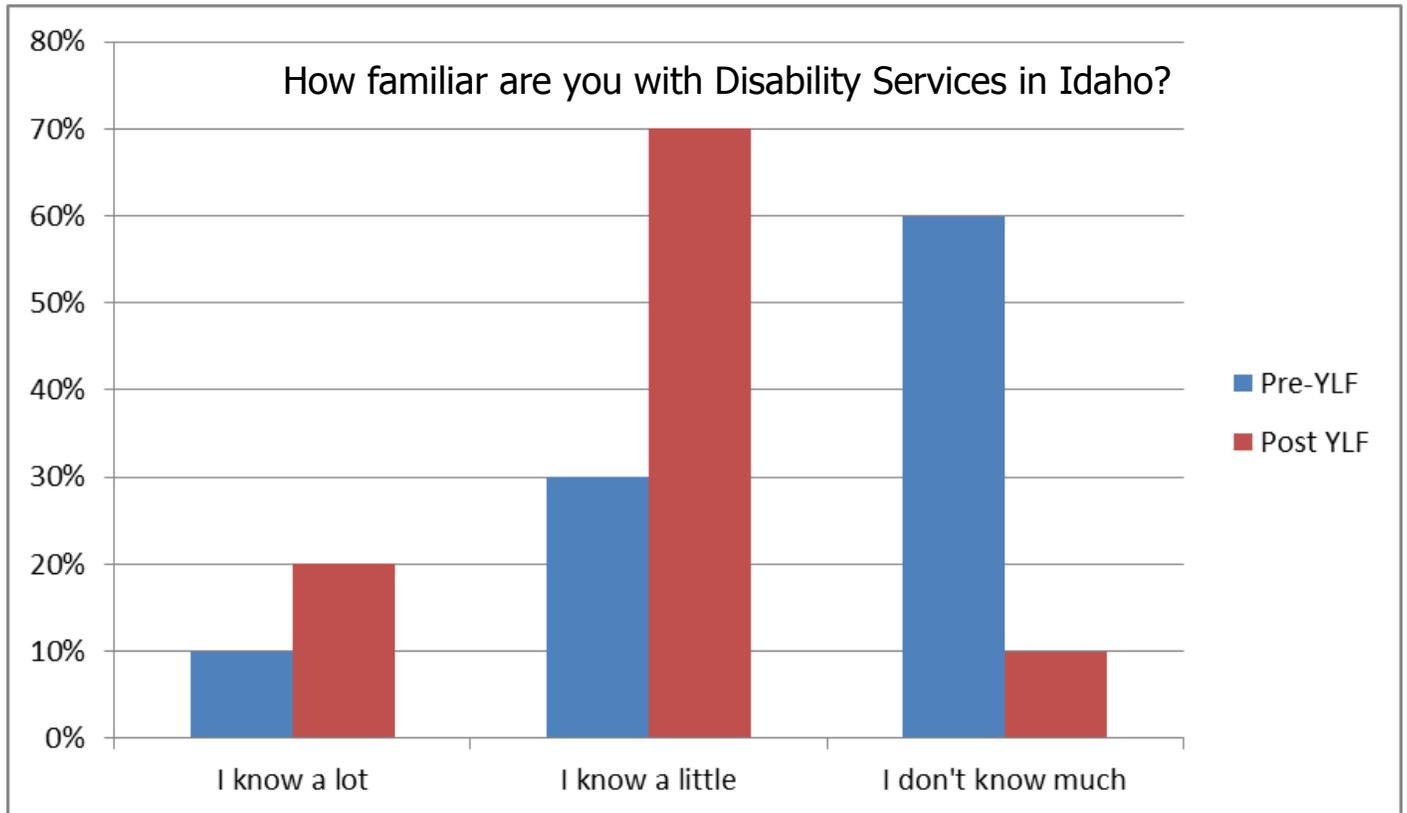
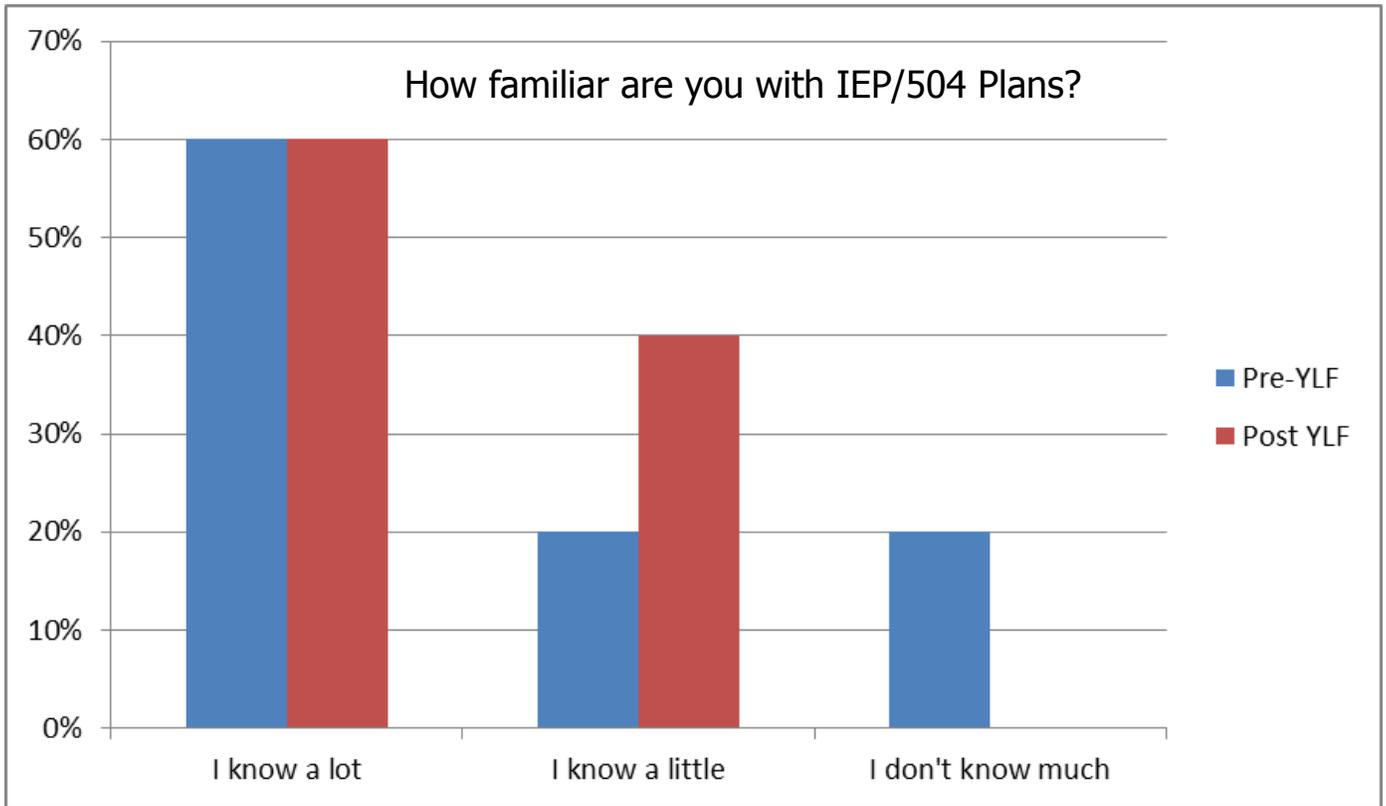
Principles of Leadership

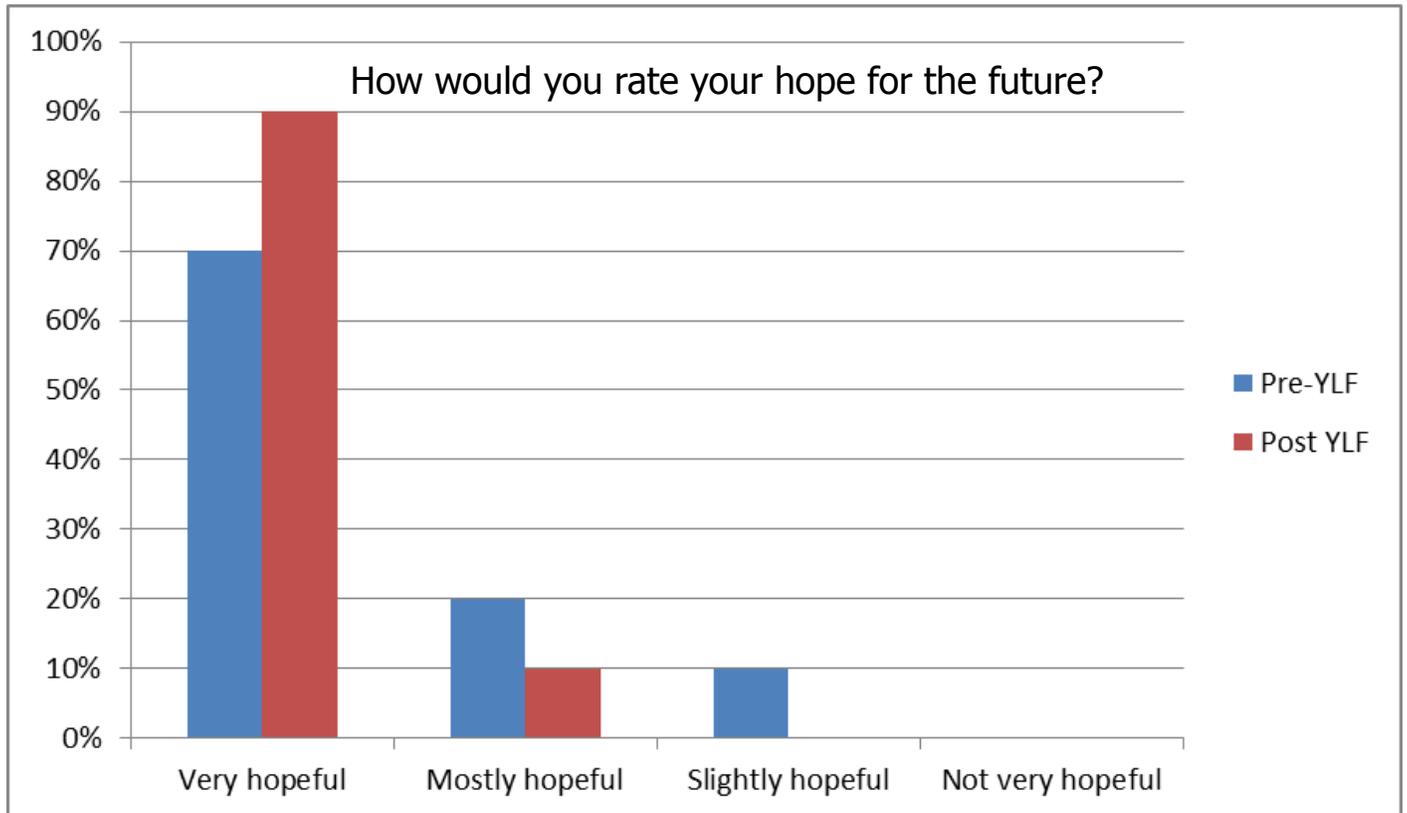
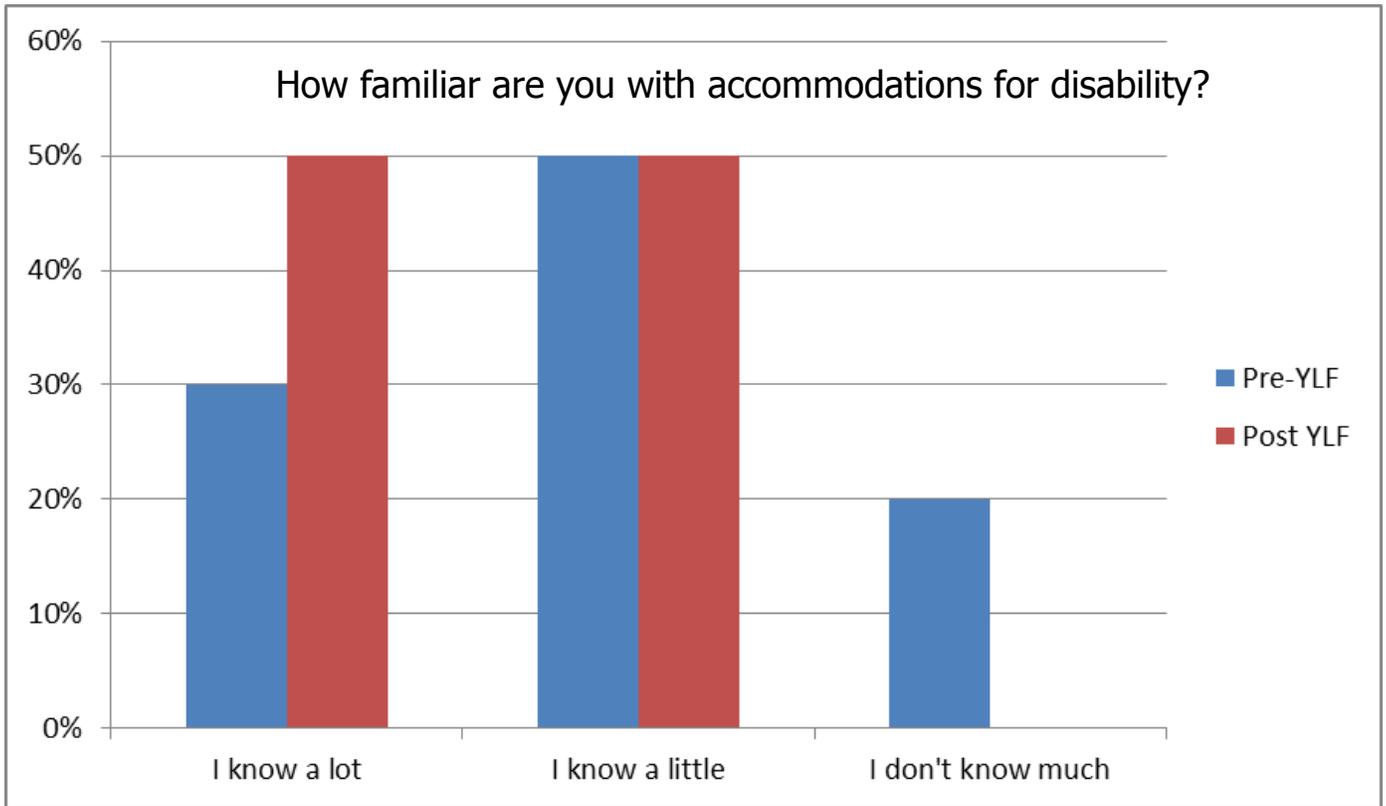
The experiences at YLF will focus on exploring and developing the basic principle of leadership. Individuals who are leaders often share the following personal characteristics:

- * Ability to set and implement goals
- * Awareness of their own strengths and weaknesses
- * Ability to motivate others
- * Integrity and honesty
- * Trust
- * Effective decision-making skills
- * Enthusiasm
- * Critical Thinking
- * Support for teamwork
- * Understanding of conflict resolution
- * Social responsibility
- * Support for continuous improvement and change
- * Willingness to share power
- * Determination and perseverance
- * Demonstration of personal values through behavior
- * Respect for diversity and individual differences
- * Belief in higher purpose - to serve others.









A huge thank you to the staff of the 2018 Idaho Youth Leadership Forum

Jerry Riener
SILC Program Specialist

Jami Davis
Youth Coordinator

Michael Lefevor
YLF Counselor

Demetria Riener
YLF Counselor

Devon Holland
YLF Peer Counselor

Max Hudson
YLF Peer Counselor

Jacey Davis
YLF Peer Counselor

Betzi Quiroz
YLF Nurse

Sheila Robertson
YLF ASL Interpreter

Fran Bennett
YLF ASL Interpreter

Contributors

Disability Action Center
Northwest

Idaho Department of Labor

Idaho Parents Unlimited

Idaho Coalition Against Sexual
and Domestic Violence

10 Barrel Brewing

Shopko

DisAbility Rights Idaho

Idaho State Independent
Living Council

Planning Committee

DisAbility Rights Idaho

Idaho Department of Labor

Idaho Department of Education

Idaho Parents Unlimited

Idaho Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation

Idaho Federation of Families

Disability Action Center
Northwest

Living Independence Network
Corp

Idaho Commission for the Blind
and Visually Impaired

Idaho State Independent Living
Council

Special Thanks:

Thank you to Sarah Sundquist for donating her time and designing the Idaho Youth Leadership Forum logo. Your contribution is truly appreciated.

Thank you to the Utah SILC for providing and paying for a staff member to participate and help with this year's Forum.

Thank you to the Arizona SILC for spending the past year and a half mentoring Idaho and helping to make this an incredible event.

Thank you to the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living for providing a SILC-to SILC mentoring scholarship. This scholarship enabled Idaho to participate in the 2017 Arizona Youth Leadership Forum and to receive a year and half of mentoring.