# 2019 Marion County Conference on Re-entry

## Conference Evaluation
## - Summary Report -

December 2019

Community Solutions

**Tel:** 317-423-1770
**Web:** www.communitysolutionsinc.net

# Overview

At the conclusion of the sixth annual Marion County Conference on Re-entry in October 2019 at IUPUI, attendees were asked to complete a Conference Evaluation Form. The evaluation asked about attendees' overall conference experience as well as their satisfaction with the breakout sessions they attended. A total of 195 individuals completed the evaluation sufficiently to be included in the analysis.

# Conference Details

**Sponsored by:** Marion County Re-entry Coalition (MCRC), Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF), Anthem, CareSource, United Way of Central Indiana (UWCI), IUPUI's O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA), EmployIndy, Indy Public Safety Foundation, and Indiana Correctional Industries (ICI)

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, October 22nd, 8:00am-4:00pm

**Location:** IUPUI, Hine Hall (875 W. North Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202)

**Objective:** The goal of the conference was to provide capacity-building and networking opportunities to community- and faith-based providers as well as criminal justice agencies that provide services to individuals who are either currently incarcerated or are re-entering the community after incarceration.

## Attendance and Registration

**Attended** (including speakers and volunteers):
- 2019 Conference: **316** from approximately **149** agencies, includes 15 walk-ins
- 2018 Conference: **377** from approximately **157** agencies, includes 5 walk-ins
- 2017 Conference: **333** from approximately **215** agencies, includes 11 walk-ins
- 2016 Conference: **316** from approximately **146** agencies, includes 7 walk-ins
- 2015 Conference: **367** from approximately **172** agencies, includes 22 walk-ins


**Registered** (including speakers and volunteers):
- 2019 Conference: **450** from approximately **214** agencies
- 2018 Conference: **446** from approximately **181** agencies
- 2017 Conference: **477** from approximately **230** agencies
- 2016 Conference: **437** from approximately **205** agencies
- 2015 Conference: **457** from approximately **225** agencies


## Survey Response Rate
2019 Conference: 195 individuals completed the Conference Evaluation Form; 61% of attendees
2018 Conference: 213 individuals completed the Conference Evaluation Form; 56% of attendees
2017 Conference: 226 individuals completed the Conference Evaluation Form; 68% of attendees
2016 Conference: 196 individuals completed the Conference Evaluation Form; 62% of attendees
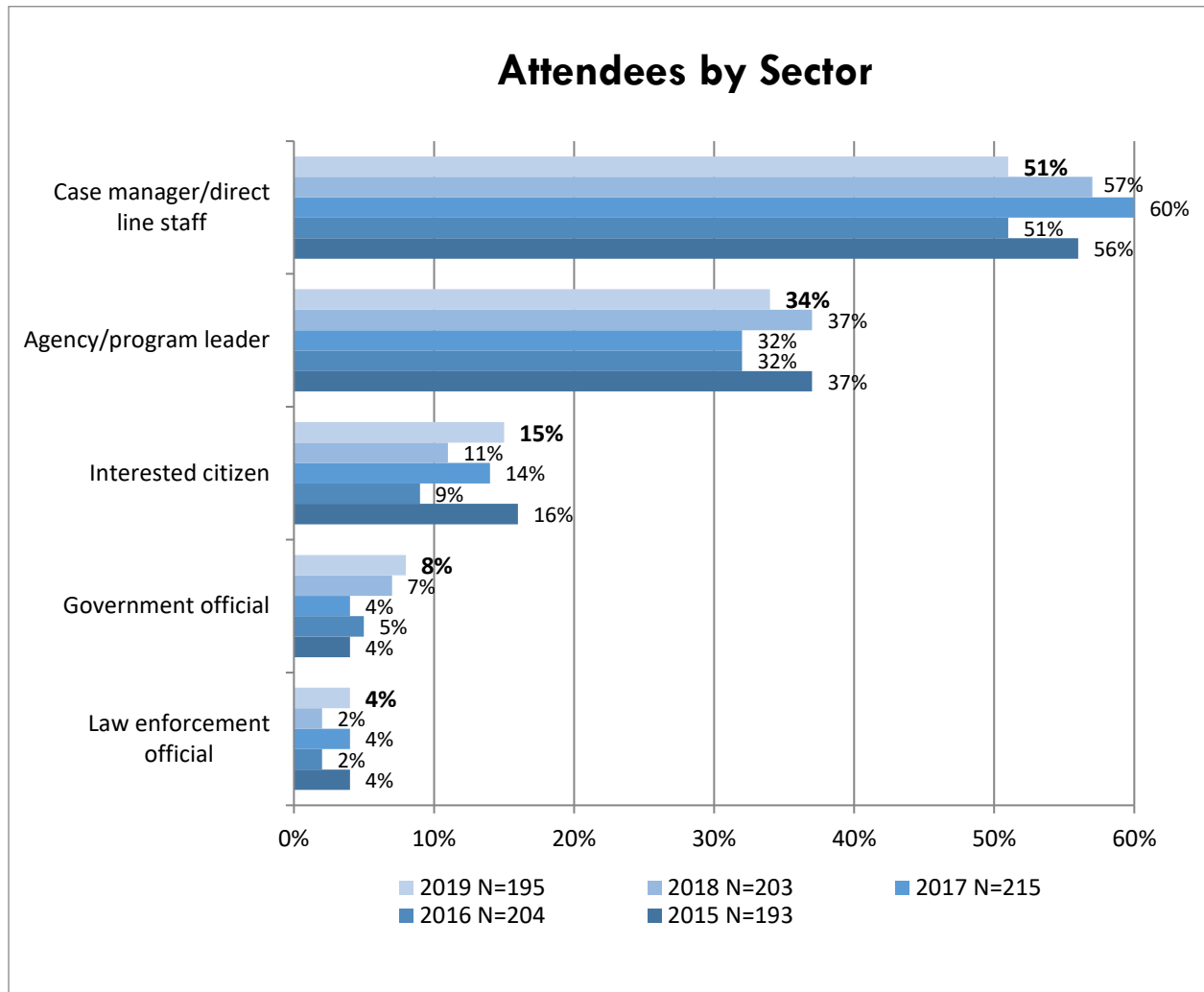2015 Conference: 198 individuals completed the Conference Evaluation Form; 54% of attendees
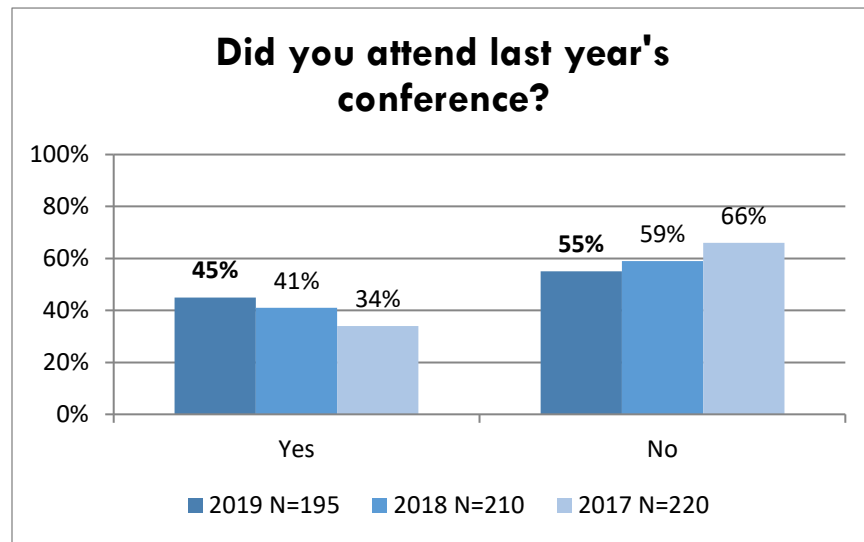
## Respondent Information

Attendees were asked to indicate which sector describes them the best. The largest share of respondents (51%) at the 2019 Conference reported being a case manager/direct line staff. Approximately one-third of respondents (34%) described themselves as agency/program leadership. Interested citizens represented the third largest category of attendees with 15%. Finally, 8% of respondents reported being a government official and 4% identified as a law enforcement official. Total percentages equal 112% indicating that some attendees selected multiple categories to describe themselves.
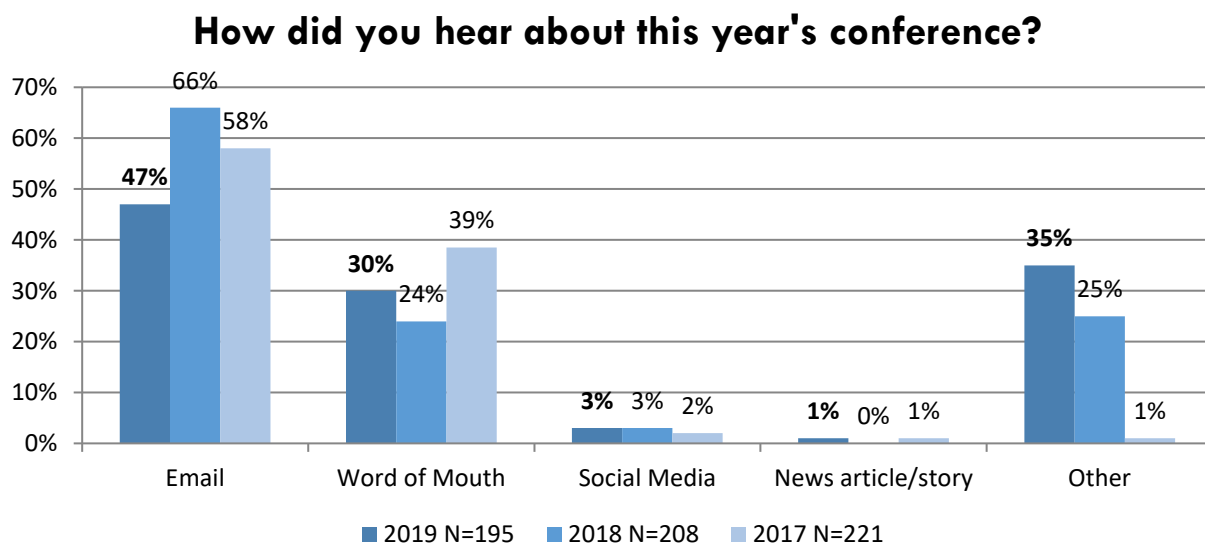
Case managers and direct line staff continue to represent the majority of attendees, with the rate decreasing slightly this year by 6%. The portion of attendees who identify as agency/program leadership slightly decreased (3%) and those that consider themselves interested citizens slightly increased (4%) from last year. Attendance from government and law enforcement officials remain relatively low, although the rate of law enforcement officials doubled since last year (2% to 4%).

## Attendees by Sector

| Sector | 2019 N=195 | 2018 N=203 | 2017 N=215 | 2016 N=204 | 2015 N=193 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Case manager/direct line staff | 51% | 57% | 60% | 51% | 56% |
| Agency/program leader | 34% | 37% | 32% | 32% | 37% |
| Interested citizen | 15% | 11% | 14% | 9% | 16% |
| Government official | 8% | 7% | 4% | 5% | 4% |
| Law enforcement official | 4% | 2% | 4% | 2% | 4% |

Slightly over half of evaluation respondents (55%) did not attend the 2018 Marion County Conference on Re-entry. As such, the conference continues to be primarily comprised of individuals who are attending the conference for the first time, although 2019 saw a higher percentage of repeat attendees than in past years.

## Did you attend last year's conference?



Legend: 2019 N=195, 2018 N=210, 2017 N=220

Yes: 2019 45%, 2018 41%, 2017 34%
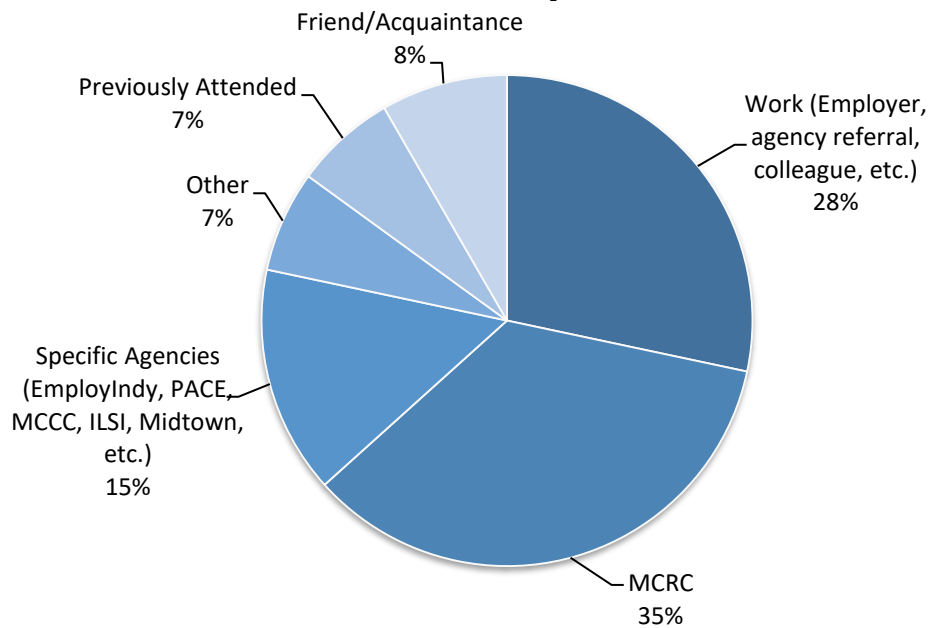No: 2019 55%, 2018 59%, 2017 66%

The most common way that respondents heard about the 2019 Marion County Conference on Re-entry was through email (47%). Almost one-third (30%) of attendees selected "Word of Mouth" as the primary method of hearing about the conference. Social media and the news remain the least reported ways that attendees have learned about the Marion County Conference on Re-entry. The percentage of attendees selecting "Other" as a way of hearing about the conference increased 10% from 2018, from 25% to 35%.

## How did you hear about this year's conference?



Legend: 2019 N=195, 2018 N=208, 2017 N=221

Email: 2019 47%, 2018 66%, 2017 58%
Word of Mouth: 2019 30%, 2018 24%, 2017 39%
Social Media: 2019 3%, 2018 3%, 2017 2%
News article/story: 2019 1%, 2018 0%, 2017 1%
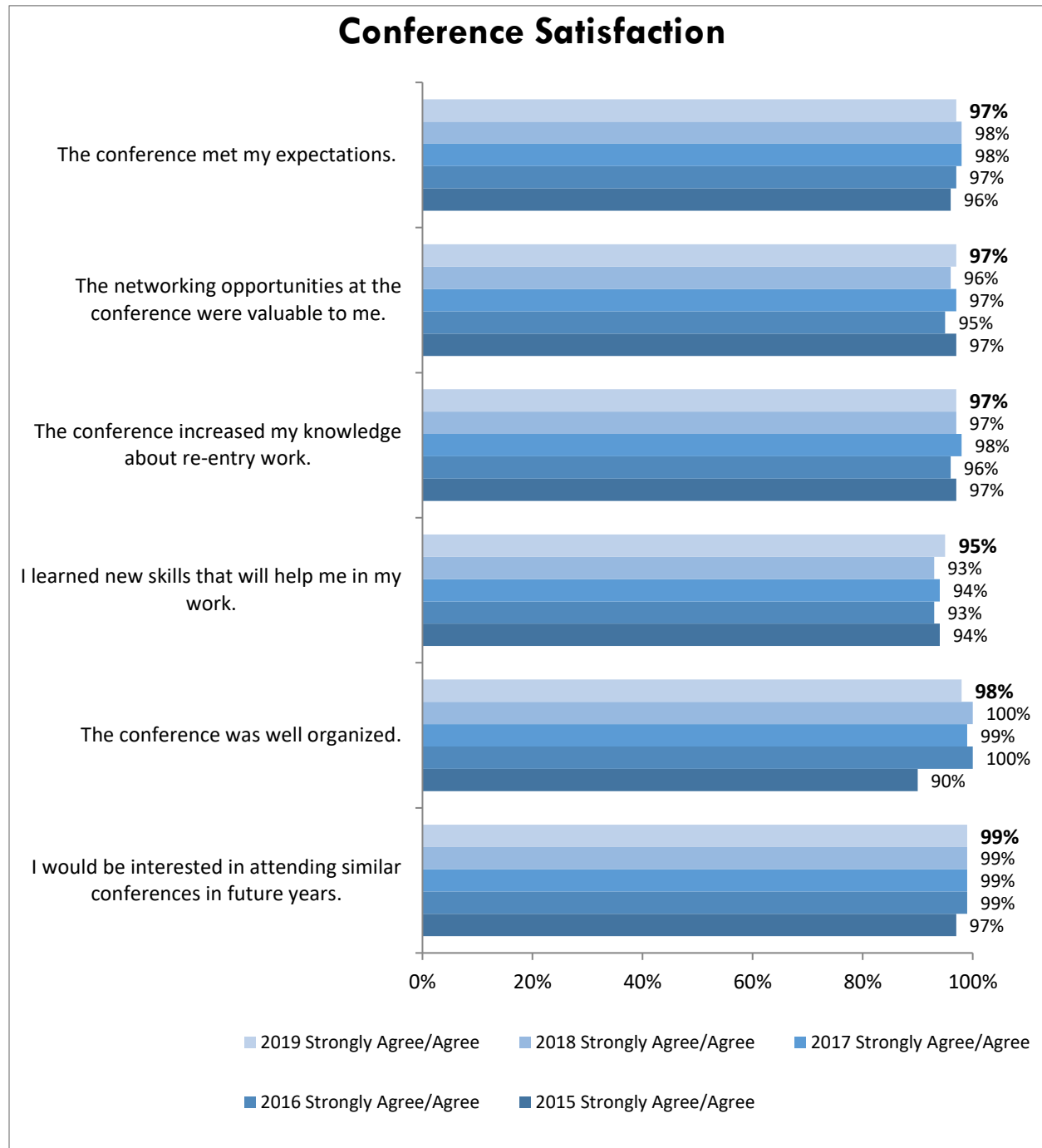Other: 2019 35%, 2018 25%, 2017 1%

There was a significant increase in the number of respondents who heard about the conference somewhere other than email, word of mouth, social media, or the news. Slightly more than one-third of these respondents indicated that they heard about the event through the MCRC while 28% learned about the conference via their place of work (via their employer, a colleague, agency referral, etc.).

## How did you hear about this year's conference? - Other Responses

Friend/Acquaintance
8%

Previously Attended
7%

Other
7%

Specific Agencies
(EmployIndy, PACE,
MCCC, ILSI, Midtown,
etc.)
15%

Work (Employer,
agency referral,
colleague, etc.)
28%

MCRC
35%

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with the statements listed in the chart and table below. The answer choices were *Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree,* and *Strongly Disagree.* The following chart and table present the aggregated response choices of *Strongly Agree* and *Agree* for each statement.

## Conference Satisfaction

**The conference met my expectations.**
- 97%
- 98%
- 98%
- 97%
- 96%

**The networking opportunities at the conference were valuable to me.**
- 97%
- 96%
- 97%
- 95%
- 97%

**The conference increased my knowledge about re-entry work.**
- 97%
- 97%
- 98%
- 96%
- 97%

**I learned new skills that will help me in my work.**
- 95%
- 93%
- 94%
- 93%
- 94%

**The conference was well organized.**
- 98%
- 100%
- 99%
- 100%
- 90%

**I would be interested in attending similar conferences in future years.**
- 99%
- 99%
- 99%
- 99%
- 97%

Legend:
- 2019 Strongly Agree/Agree
- 2018 Strongly Agree/Agree
- 2017 Strongly Agree/Agree
- 2016 Strongly Agree/Agree
- 2015 Strongly Agree/Agree

| Sample Size by Statement and Year | |
|---|---|
| The conference met my expectations. 2019 N = 182; 2018 N = 208; 2017 N = 215; 2016 N = 184; 2015 N = 193 | I learned new skills that will help me in my work. 2019 N = 178; 2018 N = 203; 2017 N = 210; 2016 N = 184; 2015 N = 193 |
| The networking opportunities at the conference were valuable to me. 2019 N = 180; 2018 N = 207; 2017 N = 210; 2016 N = 186; 2015 N = 194 | The conference was well organized. 2019 N = 183; 2018 N = 208; 2017 N = 214; 2016 N = 187; 2015 N = 194 |
| The conference increased my knowledge about re-entry work. 2019 N = 179; 2018 N = 204; 2017 N = 214; 2016 N = 185; 2015 N = 193 | I would be interested in attending similar conferences in future years. 2019 N = 184; 2018 N = 206; 2017 N = 214; 2016 N = 186; 2015 N = 193 |

## Open-Ended Questions

Participants were asked what types of topics, presentations or trainings they would like to see in future years. The top 7 responses are listed below (N=129):

- Special Populations including: women, sex offenders, LGBTQ persons, senior citizens, latinx persons. (35)
- More presentations by persons with lived experiences. (10)
- Presentations on local policy and legislation regarding incarceration and reentry (8)
- Additional presentations specifically on giving more resources than information (8)
- Presentations on drugs (particularly Spice)/drug treatment (7)
- Keep the same as this year (7)
- Presentations from employers or on employment (5)

Respondents were asked to share suggestions for improving the conference. The top four responses are listed below (N=83):

- Provide handouts or time to discuss takeaways/resources to take back to organizations (10)
- Allow more time/space for networking/exchanging contact information (7)
- Have a longer/better organized lunch (7)
- Less downtime between/during sessions (3)

Participants were asked to provide any additional comments about the conference as a whole. The top five responses are listed below (N=81):
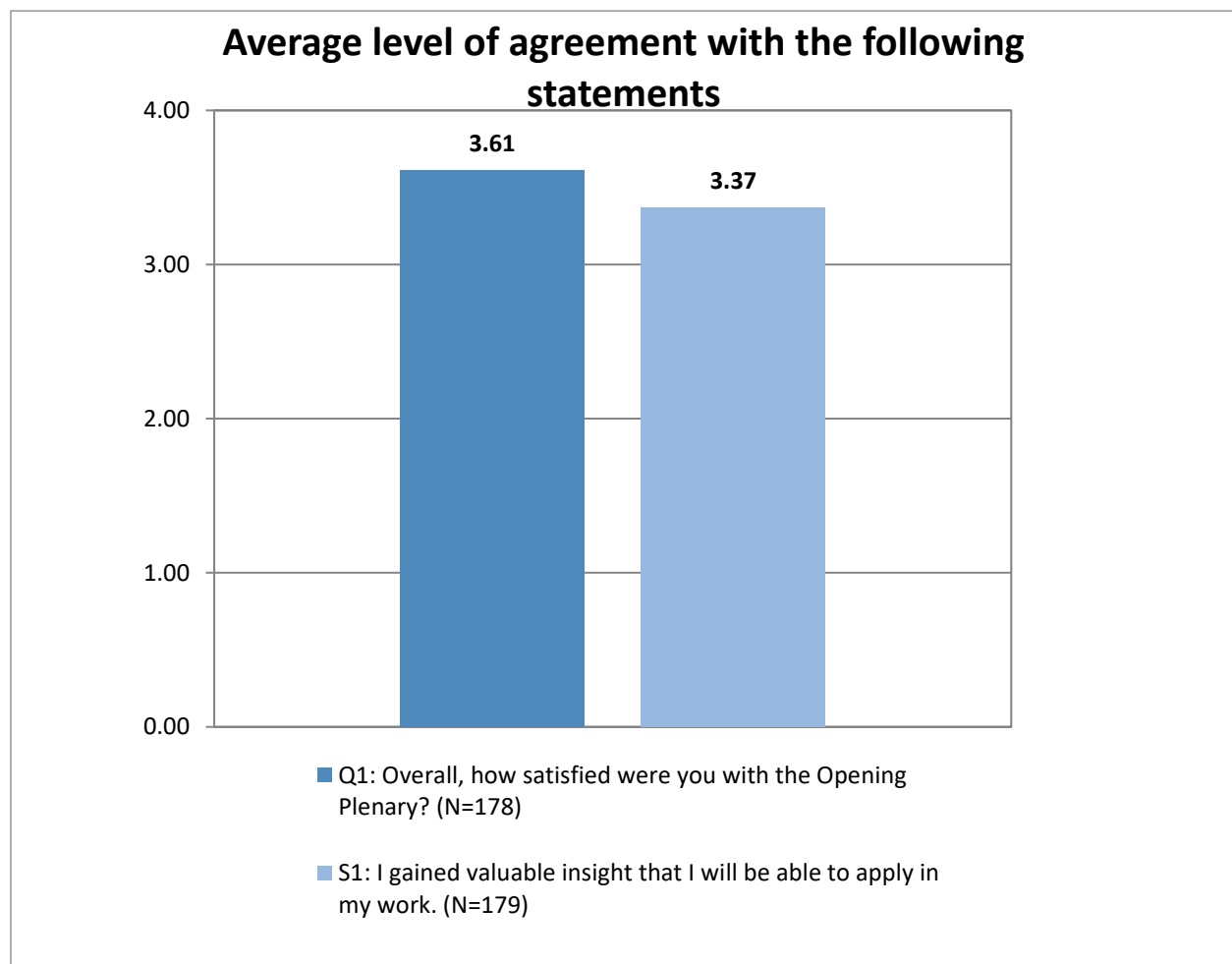
- General Positive Comments [Great conference/Good job/Perfect/Well-Managed/etc.] (33)
- Liked Plenary Session speakers (9)
- Lunch was good/better (8)
- Specific People/Organizations need to be included [women-focused presenters, judges, prosecutors, NCLC] (5)
- Sessions were not informative/helpful (5)

# Opening Plenary and Breakout Session Feedback

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with the statements listed in the charts below. The response choices for "Q1" were *Very Satisfied, Somewhat Satisfied, Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied, Somewhat Dissatisfied,* and *Very Dissatisfied*. Each answer choice was weighted, with a value of 4 assigned to *Very Satisfied*, down to a value of 0 assigned to *Very Dissatisfied*. The response choices for "S1" were *Strongly Agree, Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Disagree,* and *Strongly Disagree*. Each answer choice was weighted, with a value of 4 assigned to *Strongly Agree*, down to a value of 0 assigned to *Strongly Disagree*. The following charts and tables present the average responses to each statement.

## Plenary Session

Attendees had the opportunity to hear a keynote presentation from DeAnna Hoskins, President of JustLeadershipUSA, about the importance of re-entry work and reducing the use of incarceration; Mayor Joe Hogsett about the local criminal justice reform work occurring in Indianapolis/Marion County; Lena Hackett, President of Community Solutions, about the work of the MCRC; and Brooke Daunhauer, MCRC Steering Committee Chair, about the conference. Overall, respondents were very satisfied with the plenary session and reported that they gained valuable insight that they can apply in their work.
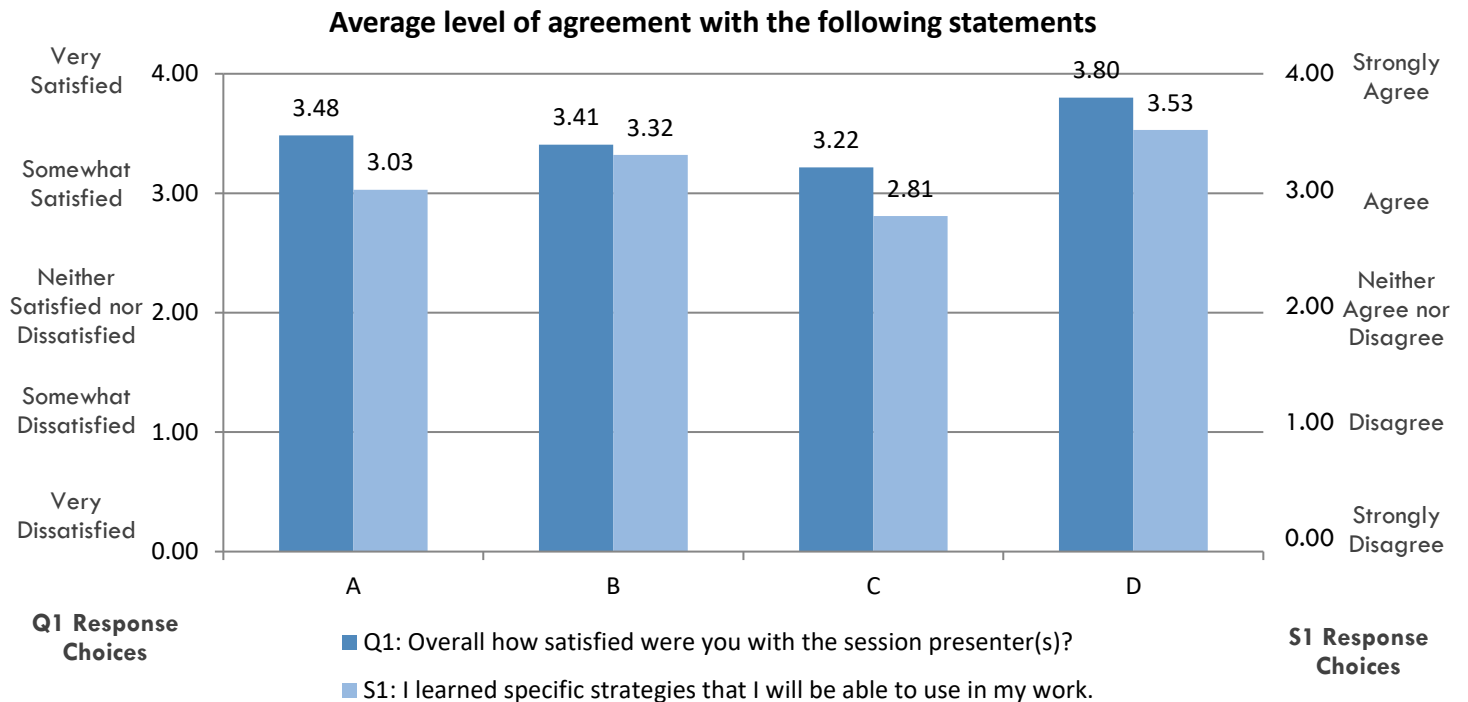


Evaluation participants were asked to share any comments they had regarding the Opening Keynote. The top four responses are listed below. *(86 total)*

- Deanna Hoskins was a great speaker (37)
- The Plenary Session was good (10)
- The main speaker was negative/discriminatory/offensive etc. (9)
- Awesome/Great/Amazing (8)

## Breakout 1 Sessions

Overall, participants were somewhat satisfied or very satisfied with their session presenters, and most respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work." The session with the greatest average level of agreement for satisfaction (3.8) and for agreement with the statement, "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work" (3.53) was "The Bail Project: Lessons Learned (Nearly) One Year In". The session "Incarceration and Homelessness: Breaking the Cycle" received the lowest average level of satisfaction (3.22) as well as lowest average agreement with the statement, "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work" (2.81).
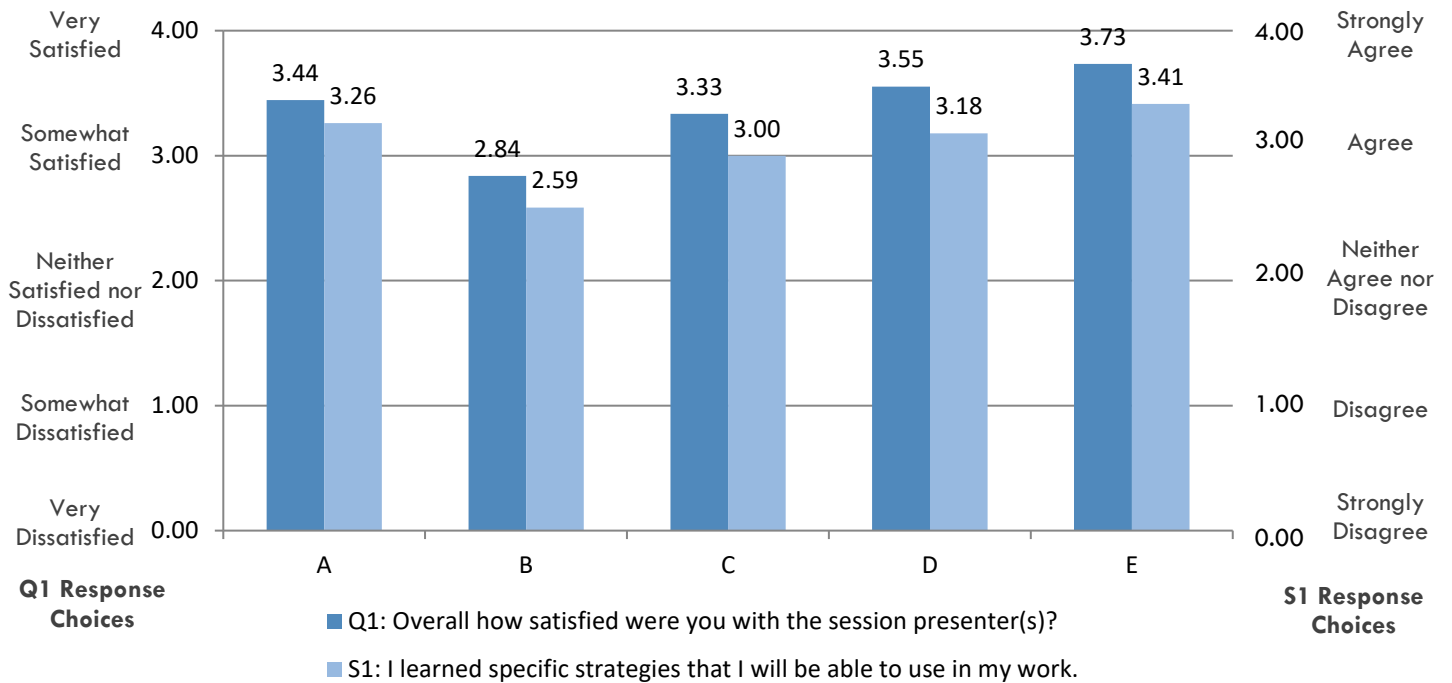
**Average level of agreement with the following statements**



Q1 Response Choices

S1 Response Choices

- Q1: Overall how satisfied were you with the session presenter(s)?
- S1: I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work.

| Label | Breakout 1 Sessions | Q1 Score | N | S1 Score | N |
|-------|---------------------|----------|-----|----------|-----|
| A | Ivy Tech Connecting Training to Well-Paying, In-Demand Jobs | 3.48 | 31 | 3.26 | 34 |
| B | Mindfulness-Based Wellness & Resiliency for Providers | 3.41 | 27 | 3.47 | 30 |
| C | Incarceration and Homelessness: Breaking the Cycle | 3.22 | 79 | 3.21 | 73 |
| D | The Bail Project: Lessons Learned (Nearly) One Year In | 3.8 | 40 | 3.55 | 38 |

## Breakout 2 Sessions

Overall, participants were somewhat satisfied or very satisfied with their session presenters, and most respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work." The session with the greatest average level of agreement for satisfaction (3.73) and for agreement with the statement, "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work" (3.41) was "Queer Query: What are Supportive Services for the LGBTQ+ Community". The session "Empowering Clients through Mindfulness-Based Social Emotional Learning" received the lowest average level of satisfaction (2.84) as well as lowest average agreement with the statement, "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work" (2.59).
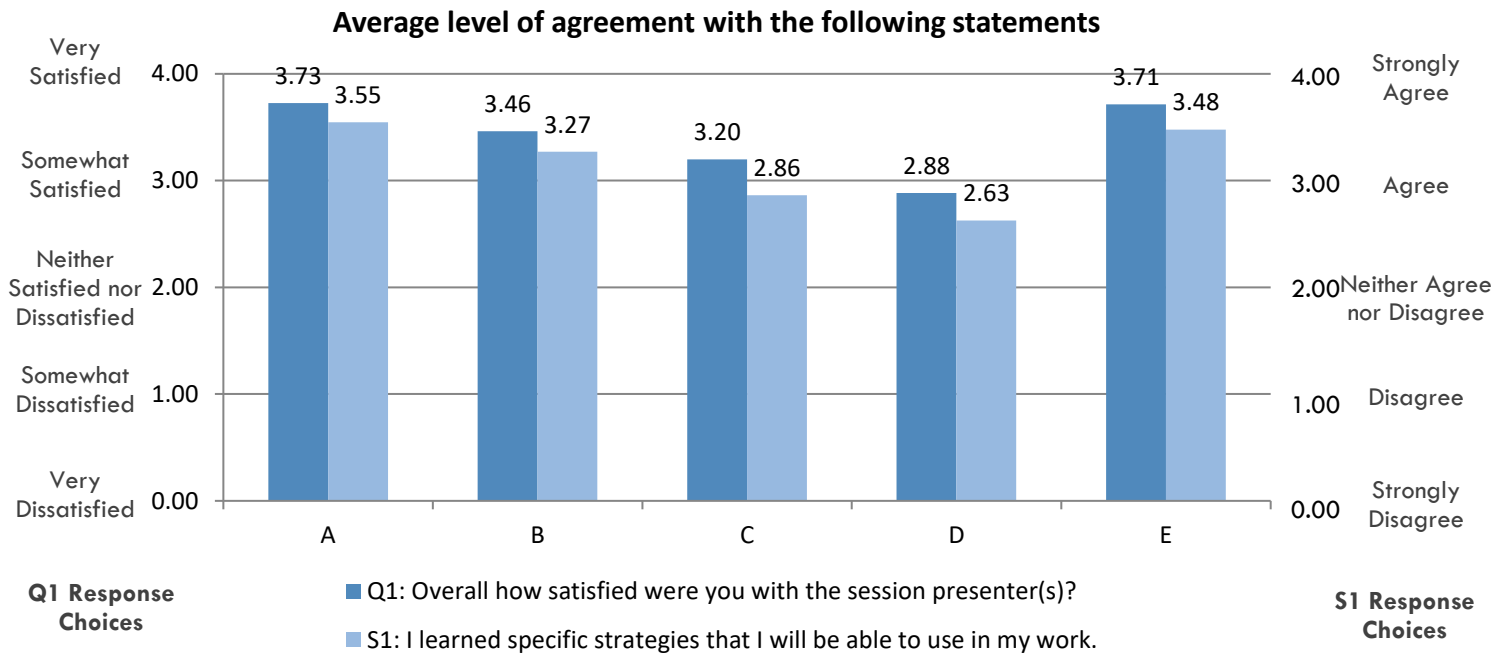
### Average level of agreement with the following statements



Q1: Overall how satisfied were you with the session presenter(s)?

S1: I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work.

| Label | Breakout 2 Sessions | Q1 Score | N | S1 Score | N |
|-------|---------------------|----------|----|----------|----|
| A | Constructing Our Future | 3.44 | 27 | 3.26 | 27 |
| B | Empowering Clients through Mindfulness-Based Social Emotional Learning | 2.84 | 43 | 2.59 | 41 |
| C | Recovery Housing in Indiana | 3.33 | 45 | 3 | 43 |
| D | Faith-Based Roundtable | 3.55 | 29 | 3.18 | 28 |
| E | Queer Query: What are Supportive Services for the LGBTQ+ Community? | 3.73 | 30 | 3.41 | 29 |

## Breakout 3 Sessions

Overall, participants were somewhat satisfied or very satisfied with their session presenters, and most respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work." The session with the greatest average level of agreement for satisfaction (3.73) and for agreement with the statement, "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work" (3.55) was "Your Money, Your Goals: Credit". The session "Not an Alternative: Concerns with Electronic Monitoring" received the lowest average level of satisfaction (2.88) as well as lowest average agreement with the statement, "I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work" (2.63).
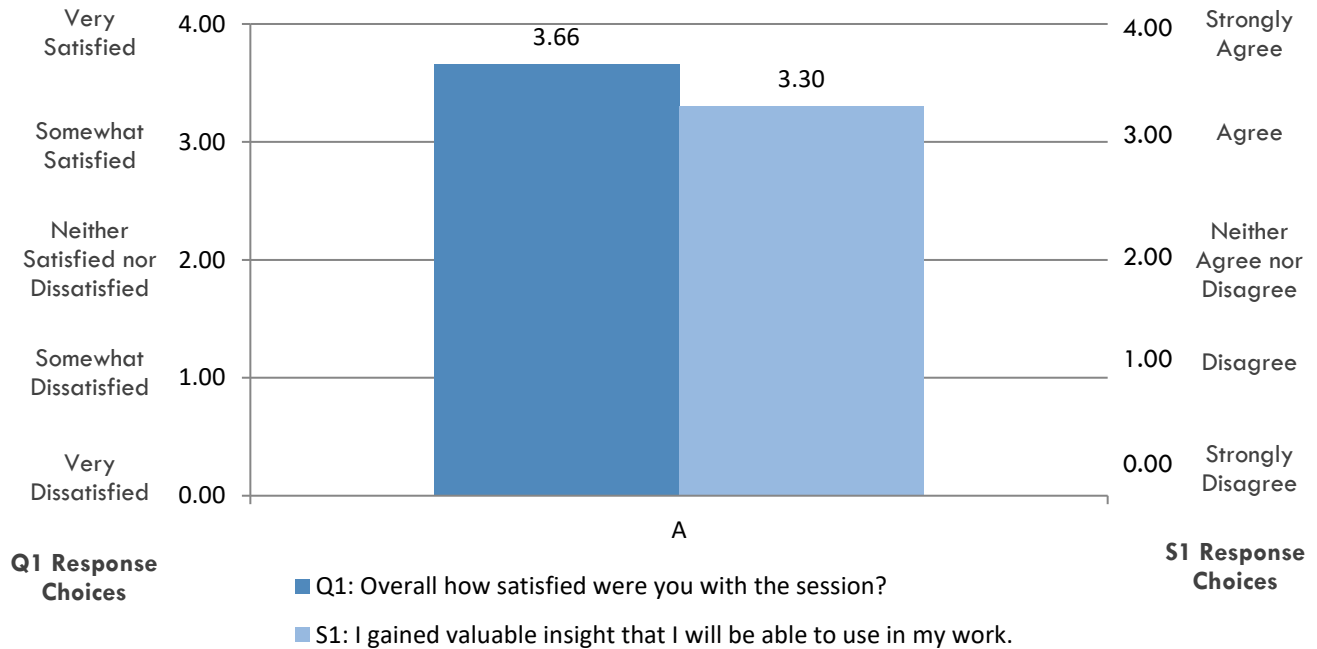
### Average level of agreement with the following statements



Q1 Response Choices — Very Satisfied (4.00), Somewhat Satisfied (3.00), Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied (2.00), Somewhat Dissatisfied (1.00), Very Dissatisfied (0.00)

S1 Response Choices — Strongly Agree (4.00), Agree (3.00), Neither Agree nor Disagree (2.00), Disagree (1.00), Strongly Disagree (0.00)

- Q1: Overall how satisfied were you with the session presenter(s)?
- S1: I learned specific strategies that I will be able to use in my work.

| Label | Breakout 3 Sessions | Q1 Score | N | S1 Score | N |
|-------|---------------------|----------|-----|----------|-----|
| A | Your Money, Your Goals: Credit | 2.85 | 13 | 2.77 | 13 |
| B | Innovative Ways to Increase Long-Term Recovery | 3.43 | 37 | 3.25 | 36 |
| C | Housing Barriers for Justice-Involved Individuals | 3.32 | 25 | 3.08 | 24 |
| D | Not an Alternative: Concerns with Electronic Monitoring | 3.24 | 34 | 2.88 | 34 |
| E | The Effects of Stigma on the Criminal Justice-Involved Community | 3.39 | 54 | 3 | 49 |

## Lunch Networking Sessions

The Naloxone lunch training session provided by Overdose Lifeline received positive overall feedback. Of the ninety-five (95) attendees responding to the statement, "I gained valuable insight that I will be able to use in my work", the average level of agreement was 3.66, a slightly higher average than the ninety-two (92) attendees responding to the statement, "I gained valuable insight that I will be able to use in my work" (3.3).

### Average level of agreement with the following statements



| Label | Lunch Networking Sessions | Q1 Score | N | S1 Score | N |
|-------|---------------------------|----------|-----|----------|-----|
| A | Overdose Lifeline Naloxone Training | 3.36 | 95 | 3.04 | 92 |