



MPACT Ulysses works toward innovating to inspire, impart and invest in healthy minds and healthy lives to build healthy communities for tomorrow. Our mission is to promote healthy lifestyles and reduce risky behaviors for youth, their families and our diverse community.

### **Community Perception**

- Almost 80% of our focus group respondents were excited about having community garden space available in our community.
- · All of our respondents said that the community garden location is one of the most important considerations in order to be successful.
- Three-fourth of respondents said for a sustainable community garden, it would be important to have a governing structure and a responsible, lead entity.

Pathways has allowed us to ask the question, "What's possible?" for our community and the health of our residents. This is a unique opportunity to do important, impactful and inspiring work around our community's health."

> — Shayla Hernandez-Jaquez, Community Member



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# **Grant County**



# Healthy Eating

Our community garden project will allow



Ulysses residents to work together, develop new friendships and have the opportunity to learn about healthy food and healthy food preparation. The gardens will provide a great place to relax, destress and enjoy the outdoors.

#### Active Living



We will be partnering with local businesses to promote active living through workplace initiatives. This will positively impact employees, their

families and ultimately the community. When an employer cares about the health of their employees, it benefits everyone!

#### **Commercial Tobacco Control**



Our local Resist and Replace chapter is working to develop peer presentations and activities for the middle and elementary schools These presentations will encourage them

to choose a tobacco and vape free life and help them understand the real impact of tobacco and vaping products. Prevention works.

# Number of Projects for Year 1



**Population Impacted** 

Pathways to a Healthy Kansas combines evidence-based solutions and promising practices for improving healthy eating, active living and tobacco prevention to make a large impact in communities. The program provides community coalitions with the tools and resources needed to remove barriers and engage their communities - and represents the largest community grant program ever funded by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas.

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#### Initiative Wide: In general, my community has sufficient options for healthy eating.



# **Key findings:**

About half of survey respondents across the 24 Pathways grantee counties said that their community has sufficient options for healthy eating.

Results are based on data from an initiative-wide survey of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas members for whom e-mail addresses were available in each of the 26 counties in which BCBSKS has funded coalitions as part of the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas Initiative. N=2,857. The survey response rate was 3.4 percent.