





Four Years of Impact

Perry's Produce received a Pathways grant to support their work to provide healthier food to Western Bourbon County. Grant funds were used to purchase additional storage and shelving that will increase capacity to store and distribute fresh produce.

The Healthy Bourbon County Action Team, in partnership with The City of Fort Scott and Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce, was awarded grant funding to install new playground equipment at Third Street Park. This project involved community members in the decision-making process and provides safe opportunities for physical activity on the east side of town.

USD 234 received Pathways grant funding in recognition of their work to update district policy to align with the best practice approach to address teen vaping. This policy change will now connect students with tobacco cessation resources like My Life My Quit.



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Bourbon County

The Healthy Bourbon County Action Team's mission is to increase access to healthy food and physical activity, promote commercial tobacco cessation, enhance quality of life and encourage economic growth. The problems of health inequity and social injustice are complex in nature and inextricably linked to key economic indicators. A healthy workforce is a prerequisite for economic success in any industry and in all cities.



Placemaking projects like our downtown arch and Third Street Park have helped to make our city a healthier and more beautiful place to live, work and play.

Melissa Guns, City Commissioner, Fort Scott, KS



Initiative Wide: In general, how would you rate the overall health of your community?

31.5% Very healthy/Healthy

49.4% Somewhat healthy

15.5% Very unhealthy/Unhealthy

Note: Results are from a survey of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas members for whom e-mail addresses were available in communities that received Pathways funding. The survey response rate was 4.7% (N = 3,354). Blank response = 3.5%.

From Voices to Victories: The Impact of Community Engagement

The Third Street Park project engaged community members through meetings and surveys to gather ideas for developing the space. The community voted on the park's name, suggested playground equipment, stairs and the refurbishment of the basketball hoop. This transformation would not have been possible without community voices.



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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