





Four Years of Impact

The Columbus Farmers Market received a Pathways grant to support work to provide healthier food to residents. Grant funds are used to support a market intern who educates market shoppers about Double Up Food Bucks, SNAP and the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program enabling an additional 20 households to utilize these resources.

The Columbus Recreation Commission was awarded grant funding to increase access to recreation facilities through free memberships to Red Iron Activity Center, for low-income and senior citizens. The individuals in these populations of focus may participate in free exercise classes. These two programs have resulted in the largest monthly increase in center usage by senior residents since its opening.

Every facility and location receiving Pathways grant funds has policies preventing tobacco use, including vaping. This policy is enforced through signage and rule documents signed by users of various facilities and is also promoted on various websites. These efforts have helped reduce tobacco use in our public spaces.



City of Columbus

The mission of the **Partnership for All Cherokee County Children** is to connect Cherokee County families to resources through education, advocacy and collaboration.



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Thanks to the Pathways grant, our O.W.L.S. site will have more learning opportunities for students about growing healthy food. Anna Moser, Principal, Park School, USD 493 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 Columbus placemaking project engaged senior residents through meetings and surveys to gather ideas for community events and programs designed to engage seniors and help them become more physically active and socially connected. The ideas generated are being used to create a community calendar of events distributed on flyers to the senior centers, through email and on social media.



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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