

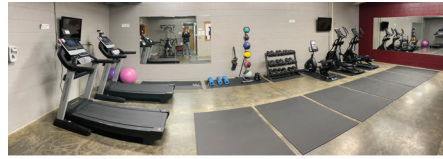
The mission of the Healthy Bourbon County Action Team is to increase access to healthy food and physical activity, promote commercial tobacco cessation, enhance quality of life and encourage economic growth. Through policy, system, and environmental changes, and with the *Pathways Initiative*, we are working to make the healthy choice the default.

### Community Perception

- About half of survey respondents across the 24 *Pathways* grantee counties said that their community did not have enough options for healthy eating.
- About 67% of respondents were supportive of policies to prohibit cigarettes, chewing tobacco and vaping products in outdoor public spaces. Additionally, 89% of respondents were supportive of similar policies for indoor public spaces.
- Eight out of ten respondents across *Pathways* grantee communities thought that community conditions like housing, transportation and education have an impact on health.

*“The Pathways Initiative has brought local organizations and people across our community together to improve the health of our citizens in Bourbon County in a variety of ways now and in the future.”*  
— Joy Miller,  
K-State Research and Extension

# Bourbon County



### Healthy Eating

We are working to increase the availability of healthy foods throughout the community. We will be working with KUMC-W in the Fall of 2021 to conduct a community health needs assessment that includes surveys and focus groups to help us identify gaps in services and healthy food options.



### Active Living

Through community beautification projects, we are working to jump-start economic development, promote community pride and morale, and encourage people to be physically active with our partners at the Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce. Look for more information coming soon on placemaking projects in Bourbon County!

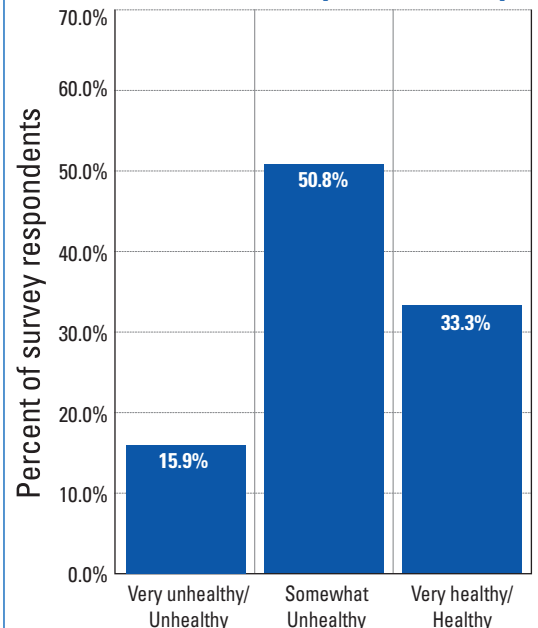


### Commercial Tobacco Control

This year we are excited to partner with USD 234 school district on policy related to vaping products. We are actively working with the school leadership to decrease the number of students using tobacco products and address the vaping epidemic.



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



### Key findings:

One third of respondents across the 24 *Pathways* communities said that their community was healthy or very healthy.

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.



**The Healthy Bourbon County Action Team**

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**8**

Number of Projects for Year 1

**14**

Partners Engaged

**14,534**

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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