

The Healthy Harvey Coalition works with community partners to improve the health, safety and success of all people in Harvey County. Through the *Pathways* initiative we are able to expand our partnerships and further our efforts by helping make substantial changes in policies, systems, and the environment that address the social determinants of health.

Community Perception

- Two-thirds of survey respondents said they walk or roll (bike, wheelchair) for fun and almost half said they walk or roll for exercise daily or weekly.
- Almost 40% of survey respondents said they didn't always feel safe walking or rolling in Newton. Some reasons provided include intimidating downtown traffic, poor lighting, and unsafe sidewalks and crossings.
- The majority of those surveyed were more concerned about sidewalks and crossings than with trails. Over 40% wanted sidewalks and crossings (ramps, crosswalks, and signals) improved.

"I always appreciate how Pathways unlocks the ingenuity of our partners. Its adaptability helps us target our community's health and wellness needs to create change."

— Mallorie Coffman,
Co-Chair,
Healthy Harvey Coalition



HEALTHY HARVEY
COALITION

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Harvey County



Healthy Eating



The **Harvey County Food and Farm Council** received a *Pathways* grant to complete a **Food System Gap Assessment** to

identify the barriers to accessing nutritious food in Harvey County. The assessment will focus on hunger including governmental and charitable food assistance, transportation issues and other economic drivers of nutrition inequities.



Active Living



We are collaborating with the **City of Newton** to enhance active transportation. We collected community perception data on

walking, rolling, and biking in Newton. The city will use that information to prioritize the most needed work to make it easier for residents to use active transportation for errands and recreation.

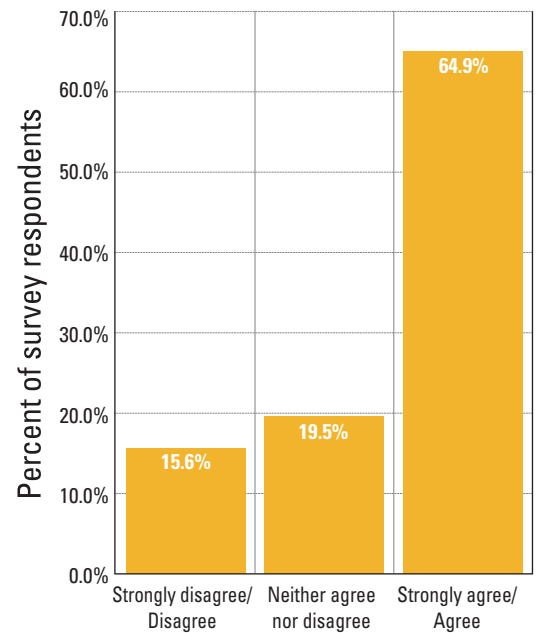
Commercial Tobacco Control



Part of the enhancing active transportation package includes looking at prohibiting smoking in Newton on the **Sand Creek path**, which is a local park.

We are also collaborating with the **KDHE CDRR** grant to make more **Harvey County parks**, as well as popular **local events**, tobacco free.

Initiative Wide: In general, my community has sufficient opportunities for physical activity.



Key findings:

About two-thirds of respondents across the 24 *Pathways* communities said their community has sufficient opportunities for physical activity.

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 = 4,845. The survey response rate was 6.9 percent.

6

Projects for Action Period 2

\$4,800

Grant Dollars Distributed So Far

34,024

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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