

Healthier Lyon County seeks to make our community a healthy place to live, work, learn and play by creating opportunities for healthy choices and building a culture that embraces healthy eating and active living. Together through *Pathways*, we're working with our county to make changes so that healthy choices are easy, familiar and an expected part of our routines and traditions.

Community Perception

The community-wide survey found:

- 73% of respondents indicate their support for the prohibition of all tobacco products in public indoor spaces, including private businesses that are open to the general public.
- 35% of survey respondents indicate that they feel that the community lacks sufficient options for healthy eating.
- 78% of respondents note that they feel the community has stayed the same or gotten healthier in the last five years.



“Thanks to funds provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Pathways to a Healthy Kansas, people will be able to spend time outside being active and enjoying our community.”
— Nichole Kuhn
City of Admire Council Member

Lyon County



Healthy Eating

Abundant Harvest received a \$20,000 grant to purchase a truck to support their food reclamation efforts. The Coalition helped evaluate policies, nutrition standards, and conduct a food waste assessment to improve reclamation. Focus includes increasing recovery of healthy foods. **Executive Director Lee Alderman** credits **Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas** and **Healthier Lyon County** for enabling swift food reclamation and distribution to Lyon County residents in need.

Active Living

The **City of Emporia** received a **KDOT Transportation Alternatives** grant, which were supplemented with matching funds from the *Pathways Initiative*, to improve pedestrian infrastructure and public transportation stops at **12th and Burlingame Road**. This project will provide safe opportunities for physical activity and connect residents on the east side of town to key community resources.

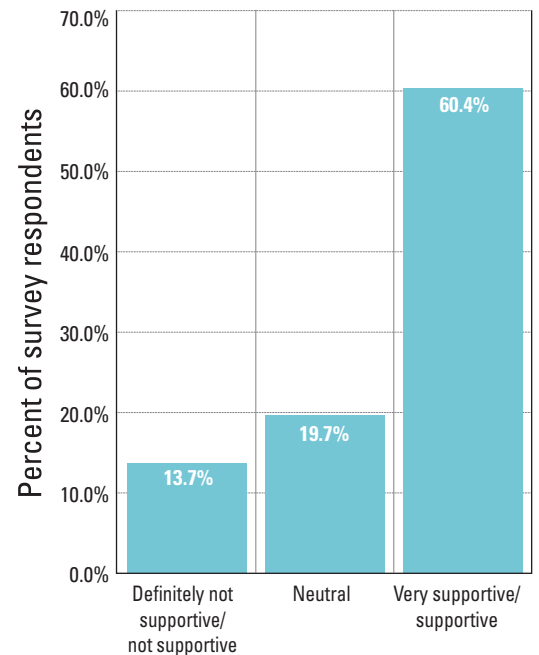


Commercial Tobacco Control



The **City of Admire** is implementing a commercial tobacco-free policy at **Admire City Park**, home to a new multi-use court featuring pickleball, basketball, and tennis. The court is funded by a *Pathways* grant. The policy prevents exposure to secondhand smoke for park visitors.

Initiative Wide: Level of support for commercial tobacco control policies in outdoor spaces



Key findings:

Three-in-five respondents across the 24 *Pathways* communities support commercial tobacco control policies in outdoor spaces.

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 = 3,708. The survey response rate was 5.3 percent. For this question, 6.2 percent of respondents did not provide an answer (blank response).



(620) 437-6096

dmertens@crosswindks.org
Facebook: healthierlyoncounty
Twitter: HealthierLyonCo
Instagram: healthierlyoncounty

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Projects

\$238,079
Pathways Grant
Funding

\$561,744
In-Kind, Matching, and
Related Grant Funding

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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