



Dickinson County

The **Quality of Life Coalition** serves as a catalyst to promote social, physical and mental well-being for the residents of Dickinson County and to foster a thriving environment in which to live, work, play and learn.

Four Years of Impact

The Abilene Farmers Market received a Pathways grant to become an incorporated entity and secure the equipment needed to offer healthy foods to SNAP recipients. The Market received a second Pathways grant to join the Double Up Food Bucks program, increasing the availability of fresh produce to financially stressed families.

The City of Abilene adopted a Tobacco Free Parks resolution and received a Pathways grant to construct a walking path around the perimeter of Bi-Centennial Park, increasing safe physical activity options for residents of all ages.

Discovery Childcare Learning Center in Herington, Little Lions Learning Center in Hope and Abilene Childcare Learning Center each adopted a comprehensive tobacco free policy and received Pathways grants to increase physical activity time for the children in their care with the purchase of climbing equipment to allow more outside play. They also obtained signage to educate staff, parents and the public about tobacco cessation and resources.



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

60.6%
Strongly agree/Agree

20.1%
Neither agree nor disagree

15.8%
Strongly disagree/Disagree

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%.

“ Thanks to the Pathways grant, we offer a more usable space in Sterl Hall for community members to utilize as they pursue healthy living options.
Robert Kohman, Board President, Central Kansas Free Fair, Dickinson County ”



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From Voices to Victories: The Impact of Community Engagement

The Quality of Life Coalition, through Pathways, provided opportunities for diverse community members with developmental and other disabilities to participate in the Kansas Leadership Center training. This empowered these individuals to lead work for improving health in Dickinson County, such as for improved wheelchair accessibility at local businesses.

11
Implementation Grants

\$400,000
Total Pathways Funding

10
Policies Passed

125
Children Served at Childcare Centers