

Our coalition's mission is to increase access to healthy food and physical activity, promote commercial tobacco cessation, enhance quality of life and encourage economic growth. The problems of health inequity and social injustice are complex in nature and inextricably linked to key economic indicators. A healthy workforce is a prerequisite for economic success in any industry and in all cities.

# Bourbon County



## Community Perception

- Almost half of survey respondents said a desire to support community members prompted or motivated them to support a local food pantry.
- About one-third of survey respondents said a list of healthier food choices and a list of healthier guidelines would be helpful to refer to when making donation choices.
- Survey respondents said their main barriers to donating healthier food items were price, shelf life, convenience, and limited knowledge of healthier choices.

“Pathways has helped Bourbon County promote locally produced food in our restaurants and food outlets. We are working to build more resilient food systems!”

— Jody Hoener,  
President,  
Healthy Bourbon County Action Team

## Healthy Eating



We will be working closely with local **food pantries** to assess and increase availability of healthy foods at the pantries. We recently conducted a **donor survey** to learn about community member's interest in donating healthy items and the potential barriers to doing so.



## Active Living



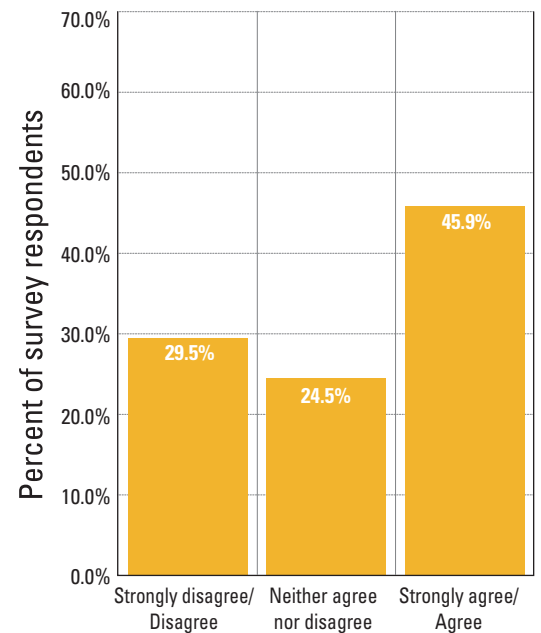
We are beginning to develop a **creative placemaking project** to jump-start economic development, promote community pride and morale and encourage people to be physically active. The placemaking project engages community members and will connect our **historic downtown** with **residential neighborhoods!** Look for more information for plans to be unveiled soon!

## Commercial Tobacco Control



We have been working with **Fort Scott High School** to update district policy to align with the best practice approach to address teen vaping. With this policy, **USD 234** will be able to apply for *Pathways* funding to connect students with tobacco cessation resources on campus!

## Initiative Wide: In general, my community has sufficient options for healthy eating.



## Key findings:

More than two-in-five respondents across the 24 *Pathways* communities said their community has sufficient options for healthy eating.

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.



**The Healthy Bourbon County Action Team**

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**10**  
Projects for Action Period 2

**\$47,504**  
Grant Dollars Distributed So Far

**14,360**  
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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