

Live Well is organized for the purpose of inspiring and advancing policy, systems and environmental changes that make it easier for Geary County, Kansas residents to lead healthy lives.

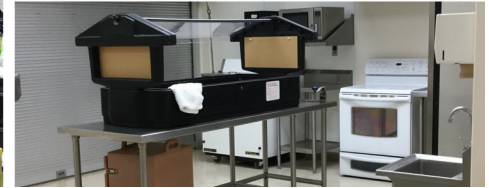
### Community Perception

- Communal Meals focus group participants expressed their concerns over the coordination with other community meal services, and how the lack of coordination may pose challenges to sustainability.
- Two-thirds of Communal Meals focus group participants shared that education is what the community needs to be healthier and reduce food insecurity.
- Over half of the RESIST focus group participants said exposure to vaping begins in middle school and the early high school years. Peer pressure plays a big role in exposure to students who are the most vulnerable.

“Being a Pathways grantee provides us with best practice guidance on how to positively impact the wellness of our community.”

— Joe Handlos,  
Live Well Geary County Chair

# Geary County



### Healthy Eating

We are working on increasing access to healthy foods. We are developing an agreement with USD 475 to lease space in the Larry Dixon Center that will allow us to provide communal meals to the community five nights a week using healthy food guidelines and conduct nutrition education classes.



### Active Living

We are working with the Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization to use interactive public engagement to encourage walking and biking by demonstrating potential projects for the Safe Routes to School Plan or projects identified in the Active Transportation Plan and gauging public support for permanent infrastructure changes.

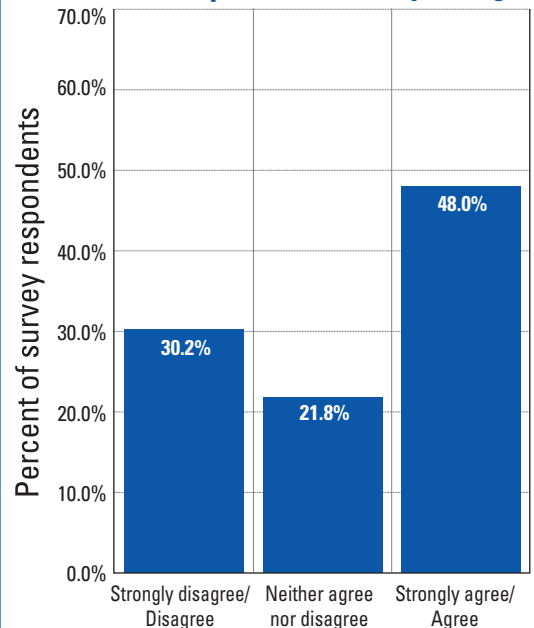


### Commercial Tobacco Control

We are excited to restart and begin new Resist Chapters in the community to mobilize youth to provide positive messages to peers on the dangers of vaping and commercial tobacco use. When these messages come from peers, they can be far more effective.



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



### Key findings:

About half of survey respondents across the 24 Pathways grantee counties said that 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=2,857. The survey response rate was 3.4 percent.



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Number of Projects for Year 1

35

Partners Engaged

31,670

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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