

The Healthy Montgomery County & Grow Labette coalitions seek to strengthen their communities through strategic alliances with our healthcare providers, government, businesses and educational institutions to create healthy choices while building a culture that celebrates the changes made available by these healthier opportunities.

Community Perception

- Of the 1,128 individuals that we surveyed in Labette and Montgomery counties, 84% support indoor tobacco restrictions, including vape, while 62% support tobacco use restrictions in outdoor areas.
- When asked if they thought community conditions (e.g., housing, transportation, education) impact health, nearly 80% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed.
- When the community was asked what could be done to assist in healthier eating the top three results were: farmers markets, healthier food options at the grocery store and when dining out.

“We are excited about the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Pathways Initiative as it allows us to dare to dream about a healthier, more active community across all demographics and age groups.”

— Jim Zaleski, Grow Labette



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Labette & Montgomery Counties



Healthy Eating

We are working with our partners at Labette Community College and Coffeyville Community College to provide healthier, affordable choices for students. This work may include upgrading kitchen equipment to allow for more grilled choices instead of fried foods. This work may also involve making healthier options available outside of regular cafeteria hours.



Active Living

We are excited about the opportunity to work with Labette Health to create a hospital garden. This hospital garden will provide homegrown herbs, fruits and vegetables, as well as a short escape for front-line healthcare workers.

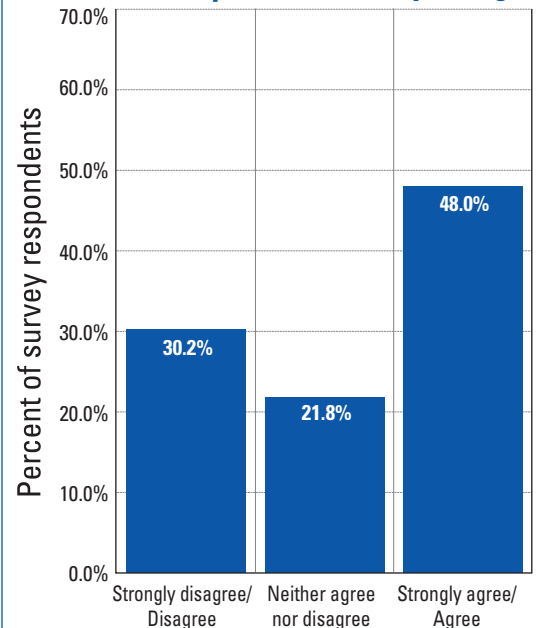


Commercial Tobacco Control

Montgomery County has had great success passing tobacco free parks and outdoor spaces in all four of their major cities. Labette looks forward to expanding their tobacco free policies to the downtown area to protect citizens from second hand smoke and help clean up cigarette litter. We look forward to working with city officials and other partners to provide a healthier downtown location.



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.

7

Number of Projects for Year 1

10

Partners Engaged

51,447

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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