

# Pathways to a Healthy Kansas

Spring 2019 Impact Report



"With a new Community Health Needs Assessment completed and top health priorities identified, the *Pathways* grant is perfectly timed."

Lynette Redington, Newton

## Community Well-being Progress

Fifty-six percent of Harvey County Community Perceptions Survey respondents said they're not getting enough physical activity. The City of Hesston has committed to supporting community wellness by promoting active lifestyles. One way to increase physical activity is to make biking and walking safer and easier, so they are working to develop a new Bike/Ped Master Plan that will improve biking and walking opportunities for all residents.

# Healthy Harvey Coalition

The Healthy Harvey Coalition (HHC) works to improve the overall health of our community. By working through policies, systems and environmental change, we are making it easier for residents to choose healthier lifestyle options. From better options for bicyclists and



COALITION

pedestrians to ending tobacco dependence and learning to plan more balanced meals and playdates, our goal is to make Harvey County a healthier place to live.

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## Pathways Engagement Highlights

- **Restaurant Pledged:** *Prairie Harvest*
- 2 Healthcare Providers Pledged: Health Ministries Clinic, Mirror Inc.
  - Hospital Pledged: Newton Medical Center

#### Worksites Pledged:

Bluestem Communities, Conrade Insurance Group, Harvey County, Hesston College, Mirror Inc., Newton Et Cetera Shop, Newton Medical Center, Newton Presbyterian Manor, Newton Recreation Commission, SafeHope

#### **5** School Districts Pledged:

USD 369 Burrton, USD 373 Newton, USD 439 Sedgwick, USD 440 Halstead, USD 460 Hesston The Coalition is working with the Harvey County Food and Farm Council to explore strategies to grow the local food-producing economy and make it easier for residents to get fresh fruits and vegetables, such as enabling SNAP purchases at Farmers Markets. Prairie Harvest restaurant is working on nutritional labeling and healthier menu items. And HHC is scheduling WorkWell KS "Healthy Eating and

Beverage" workshops for worksites.

Walk & Roll Harvey is a working group of the HHC. Its mission is to promote active transportation for all reasons in Harvey County to include but not limited to bicycling and walking. They are making plans to install wayfinding / mileage markers on the Newton/North Newton "Trail of Two Cities." Because lack of secure bike parking discourages biking, they're working toward installation of community bike racks. The majority of Harvey County Community Perceptions Survey respondents support raising the age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21. The Coalition is partnering with the STAND youth group and the Healthy Harvey Drug Free Communities Coalition to follow up on these results. HHC is also working with Newton and North Newton for polices supporting tobacco-free playgrounds and athletic fields.

\$6.693

# Round 2: 2017-2020

Achievement/ Implementation Grants	Pathways Funds Available	Pathways Funds Awarded	Match from Community/Grants
Policy	\$100,000	\$0	
Community Well-being Projects	\$50,000	\$0	
Food Retail and Restaurants	\$70,000	\$6,693	
Health Care	\$20,000	\$0	
Schools	\$60,000	\$0	
Worksites	\$100,000	\$0	
Totals	\$400,000	\$6,693	\$0
		Total Benefits to Community:	

**Healthy Harvey Coalition** 

## Lorrie Kessler

#### Healthy Harvey Coalition Coordinator (316) 283-5667 ×228

LKessler@harveycounty.com Facebook: @HealthyHarveyCoalition HarveyCounty.com/coalition Harvey County Kansas 215 S Pine Street, Newton KS 67114

For more information about Blue Health Initiatives, please contact:

Virginia Barnes Director of Blue Health Initiatives (785) 291-8004 Virginia.Barnes@bcbsks.com



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 BCBSKS.