



Meeting Summary
Tuesday, June 23rd 2026, 2-3pm
Senior Services Inc. of Wichita, 200 S. Walnut St.

Our mission: Promote physical activity and good nutrition for every generation living in the greater Wichita area through people, programs, and policies.

1. Coalition Grant Updates

- a. KDHE Chronic Disease Risk Reduction - awarded for SFY27. Wrapping up this current year grant and revising next year's grant.
- b. We are very grateful to BCBSKS for funding coordination support and more through the **Pathways to a Healthy Kansas** - ICT Farms (Community Gardens) has already received \$20,000 in implementation funds. 😊 SCHED (Community Health Needs Assessment) have applied for \$50,000 in implementation funds. Jay (Communal Meals \$10,000 and Food Pantry \$25,000) is finalizing minimum requirements. Janelle & Spencer (Healthier Childcare \$15,000) also finalizing minimum requirements.
 - i. This grant ends in December and we will find out in July about the next cycle. We will be looking for community partners!
- c. Food Secure Community Initiative - Training a group of women to be community advocates.

2. Education: Wyatt Sheeder is the Executive Director of Senior Services of Wichita

- a. Meals on Wheels serves 900+ meals M-F cooked in their kitchen and delivered through 62 routes by volunteers. These meals provide nutrition and a safety check.
- b. 4 senior centers: Downtown, Orchard Park, Northeast and Linwood. 2 are city buildings, but they are not funded by the city.
- c. Senior Employment Program started in 1982 presentation by Sherry. Helps connect seniors to full time, part time, temporary jobs through weekly job club and listings. Also connected in home handyman services.

3. Networking/Good News/Upcoming Activities/Events

- a. Announce Weaver Awards
- b. Wichita Wellness Day - open to the entire community! Empac 11-1 Friday 6/26
 - i. We will have 6 stations of activities centered around some of the pillars of wellness. This year we are focused on physical, intellectual, emotional, financial, nutritional, and social. Attendees are encouraged to participate in the activities outlined within each pillar, and upon completing all activities, they will be registered for a prize giveaway!
- c. Cooking Matters - pass around flyer
- d. Stacy shared about the wonderful programming happening at the Oaklawn Wellness Hub and introduced the new part time coordinator, Stephanie Birmingham.
- e. Michele shared that KLS is experiencing a statewide staffing and volunteer shortage.
- f. Mary with the SCHED attends the Oaklawn food distribution on the 3rd Saturday.

- g. Mental Health America is planning an event on 7/18 with Oaklawn and in November with K-State Extension. Both events focus on connections.
- h. Holly with Right at Home shared about a behavioral health hospital for people over age 55. There is a presentation called Aging with Hope at Oxford Vista. Caregiver burnout and seniors and suicide are other topics.
- i. Caleb with Optimal Performance shared that they offer individual and small group training at their location along with recovery options: contrast therapy.
- j. Stephanie shared that the Wichita Medical Research Foundation provides training in the community on Advanced Directives and Clearwater Testing.

4. Closing

- a. Call to Action
 - i. HWC - what are you going to share from this meeting?
 - ii. Senior Services - Read the Compass monthly newsletter and share information learned. Let Wyatt know if you have resources to contribute.
- b. Completely Random Coalition Facts - total funding coming in from Pathways? **\$120,000** + \$50,000 each year for two years for Coordination = \$220,000!
- c. Why We Do What We Do - As humans, we tend to gravitate to the negatives: recently I have heard of good people leaving their jobs, Ascension stopping their weight management program, attacks on local food system coordination and newly homeless households are surging.
 - i. But today, I am going to focus on the positive! You attended this meeting. We have amazing parks, options for seniors! Today is National Hydration Day. The World Cup is uniting the world with 48 countries competing. Professional athletes are starting to speak out against the US food system.
 - ii. **Share with me your positives!**

5. Facility Tour

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 28th, 2026
Location: Child Start

