

## Strategic Framework 2023-2026

## VISION:All Kansans are physically, spiritually and mentally healthyMISSION:Healthy Kansans through cooperative and strategic philanthropy guided by Christian principles



In the spirit of our founding in Christian Health Ministry, we continue to be dedicated to:

- Bringing philanthropy and Christian principles together to advance health
- · Being a learning, responsive and innovative organization
- Working for social justice for all people
- Fostering environments of accomplishment and celebration
- · Working to advance health and racial equity and reduce disparities



Through meetings, stakeholder interviews, and research, the Health Fund reexamined the priorities we set in 2018, our successes, and where we can have the most impact on the health of all Kansans.

By viewing the next four years through a strategic lens, we can take a systems-level approach, making grants that fund innovative ideas that can collectively show impact and inform future grantmaking and policymaking. The Health Fund will focus on three strategic areas:

### ACCESS TO CARE THRIVING CHILDREN ENGAGED CONGREGATIONS AND COMMMUNITIES

# REALIZING OUR STRATEGY AND MEASURING OUR IMPACT

With modest resources compared to the challenge of improving the health of all Kansans, we leverage our strengths by partnering, building relationships, improving policies and systems, and focusing on sustainability. To adapt and achieve maximum impact, we include project-appropriate measures in all of our work, seeking to allocate limited resources wisely between implementation and evaluation.

Regardless of whether we're evaluating on outcomes, processes, or narratives, we use that data to learn, respond, and innovate – continually adjusting our work and approaches to better achieve our vision: that all Kansans are physically, spiritually, and mentally healthy.

## HEALTH FUND AREAS OF FOCUS



**GOAL:** Innovative and sustainable health systems that ensure people have access to all facets of care



**GOAL:** Ensure thriving children through healthy starts, safe and stable families, and early development and learning



**GOAL:** Engage United Methodist churches and Kansas communities in local projects focused on improving the health of their congregations and communities

## PRIORITIES

- **Coverage and Services** Access to quality care is essential to improving overall health. To reduce barriers and disparities, we will support programs that increase access and strengthen coverage, especially KanCare.
- Innovative Delivery and Workforce Development - New delivery and workforce models are needed to sustain health care systems in Kansas. To stimulate innovation, we will invest in developing and advancing new care and workforce models, such as community health workers and rural emergency hospitals.
- Sustainable Health Care Financing - To ensure continued access to care, we need to support sustainable financing including a fair tax system, policies that maximize federal funding, coverage expansion, and securing federal and philanthropic grants.

### PRIORITIES

- Healthy Starts A healthy pregnancy, birth, and immediate postpartum period are critical for maternal and child health and healthy brain development. We will support programs, policies and convening to improve access to services and reduce disparities.
- Safe and Stable Families -Financial and food security are foundational to healthy development. We will support research, consumer assistance and awareness-building efforts to boost food and economic security.
- Early Development and Learning - Access to evidence-based development programs and highquality early learning are key to lifelong health and economic opportunity. We will support programs, advocacy, and research to strengthen early learning and development systems and improve access to evidence-based services like home visiting.

#### **PRIORITIES**

- Healthy Congregations Great Plains United Methodist churches can play essential roles in improving the health of their congregations and communities. We will continue to encourage and support this work through annual grants and special program opportunities.
  - **Community Leadership** To improve health and address social needs in our congregations and communities, leadership is essential. Through special grant programs we will continue to develop leadership and create leadership opportunities.
- **Civic Engagement** Robust civic and voter engagement is critical for the health of our communities. We will continue to support programs and efforts to increase voter and civic engagement, including relational organizing to boost voter participation.

## **STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: 2023-2026**

