



Thrive is a 501(c)(3) working to revitalize Allen County, Kansas (pop. 13,319) through a focus on improving our county’s quality of life. We do this by building partnerships, defining needs, identifying resources, coordinating services and providing leadership on important public issues.

Our Vision: Allen County will be a place where people want to live because it’s **safe** and **healthy**.

Our Mission: To make accessible a safe environment with **health, wellness, recreation and education** services for every citizen in Allen County.

Strategies

- **Building Countywide Unity**
 - Pulling seemingly disparate groups into projects where they CAN be successful if they collaborate.
 - Acknowledging the past—rivalries, county seat battles, grudges—and moving on.
 - Using data to remind communities countywide that we’re all in the same boat.
 - Conducting “community visioning” sessions to help local residents create a coherent, achievable vision for the future of their town.
- **Collaborating With Other Service Providers**
 - Finding ways to help local agencies offer new/alternative options to support health, wellness, recreation and education.
 - Making available to service providers and the public up-to-date *local* data, including how to leverage new funding.
 - Worrying about getting the work done...NOT who gets the credit.
- **Taking the Heat**
 - Publicly advocating for action on local matters that don’t typically have vocal constituencies—oral health, built environment, tobacco, recreation, etc.
 - Staking out unpopular positions on important but controversial public issues, and supporting others that do the same.
- **Targeting Critical Needs First**
 - Recruiting new medical and dental providers to our county.
 - Focusing on oral health, obesity and healthy lifestyle programming.
 - Stitching together transportation services to remove barriers to health care.

Activities

Community Visioning services
Monthly “Community Conversations”
Annual awards for excellence in health, wellness, recreation and education
Volunteer dental transportation network
Quarterly health newsletters mailed countywide
The *Charley Melvin Mad Bomber Run for Your Life* 5K Run
Allen County “Meltdown”