

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas invested **over \$28 million** to support members, customers and providers.

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## ACCESSING THE VACCINE

- BCBSKS employees have volunteered across the state, often in their hometowns, to increase vaccine access and staff clinics.
- Created a COVID-19 resource center on our website and provided information on the vaccine and where to get it.



## EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY

- Published and publicized a blog post written by our Chief Medical Officer on the importance and safety of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Supported accounts with questions surrounding vaccine safety and access.
- Launched “What’sYour Why?” social media campaign encouraging people to get vaccinated.



## ADDRESSING INEQUITIES

- Joined AHIP and BCBSA on Vaccine Community Connectors program, pledging to promote vaccinations for 2 million underserved, at-risk Americans.
- Joined the Rally for Recovery Commitment, a national commitment to protect employees and communities by encouraging vaccines and continued mitigation effort.
- Created “What’sYour Why?” postcards directing members to our COVID resource page to find a vaccine:
  - 5,000 were mailed to members over 65 with known co-morbidities.
  - 5,000 were distributed in food boxes through local Feeding America food banks and affiliated pantries.



## UPCOMING COVID EFFORTS

Partnering with a state legislator and black nurses association to dispense vaccines to people of color in an urban community.

## OUR COMMITMENT

Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies remain committed to helping communities across the country during the COVID-19 pandemic. The belief that every American deserves safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines is at the heart of our commitment. We continue to support widespread vaccination events, as well as targeted efforts to reach those with low access. Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies have so far invested \$11.5 billion to support their communities during the pandemic. We’re using our deep community connections to build confidence in vaccines. And we’re striving to eliminate racial disparities in access. Our goal is to build a more equitable health care system for all, now and beyond the pandemic.



## GENERAL COVID-19 SUPPORT

### Ensuring Access to Care and Promoting Affordability:

- Continuing to waive all member cost share for COVID-19 testing and COVID-19 treatment through the end of the public health emergency or Dec. 31, 2021, whichever comes first.
- Partnering with the State of Kansas Go Get Tested Program to cover the cost of all BCBSKS members' COVID-19 tests at the State's "free" testing locations to ensure the State's COVID-19 funding can be used for other COVID-19 relief programs.
- Provided a \$6.2 million premium holiday towards dental premiums.

### Partnering with Providers:

- Provided \$9.6 million towards interest free advance provider repayments payments in response to the pandemic.
- Invested \$1.5 million towards increasing telehealth capabilities associated with expanding telehealth offering in response to the pandemic, adding new vendor services; includes temporarily paying at parity, etc. through the end of the PHE or Dec. 31, 2021, whichever comes first.

- Increased Quality-Based Reimbursement Program (QBRP) payments for dentists to account for additional PPE costs, totaling more than \$1.2 million.
- Designated approximately \$400,000 to provide grants to Kansas healthcare providers for the adoption of secure telehealth platforms and the purchase of equipment that will allow providers to provide telehealth services.
- Continuing to relax administrative requirements to give more time to treat patients.

### Serving our Communities:

- \$70,000 in grants directly to local community foundations that promote stories of frontline workers through the #AdAstraStrong campaign.
- \$280,000 in grants to manufacturers, non-profit maker spaces and universities to manufacture personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical supplies across the state.
- \$200,000 grant to the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments for contact tracing and testing.
- \$352,800 to Topeka Rescue Mission's Operation Food Secure to provide fresh food boxes to households in eight counties in northeast Kansas.

- \$44,000 to assist 22 domestic violence organizations facing increased demand for services.
- \$27,000 to Project Topeka to support local food pantries.
- \$37,500 to the City of Wichita Housing Authority for senior citizen meals.
- \$10,000 to Harvesters for the Four Good Hunger Championship.
- \$13,500 to three food bank systems.
- \$7,000 to Finney County Health Coalition to support clean water access when county crews were unable to immediately fix a water main break during the peak of the pandemic
- BCBSKS Foundation Giving:
  - \$50,000 to Child Care Aware of Kansas, a membership organization for all childcare providers in Kansas.
  - \$30,000 to American Red Cross to provide emergency and disaster relief and COVID-19 response services in 103 counties in Kansas.
  - \$25,000 to St. Francis Ministries to support telehealth services to clients with behavioral health needs.