

## Sunflower Foundation: Two Decades of Trailblazing Commitment!!

For over 20 years, the Sunflower Foundation has proudly supported the development of trails across Kansas. From trail builder grants to funding for planning, promotion, and evaluation, we've offered a wide range of opportunities to help communities expand and enhance their trail systems. And while the landscape may have changed, one thing remains constant: Sunflower's deep-rooted commitment to funding and supporting Kansas trails well into the future.

The Sunflower Trails program began as an innovative response to public health challenges, most notably, the rising rates of obesity. Inspired by CDC recommendations encouraging more physical activity, Sunflower took a bold step: if we want people to move more, we need to create safe, accessible, and enjoyable spaces for them to do just that.

Nearly two decades later, our understanding of the value of trails has only grown. We now know that trails do far more than support physical activity. They also promote mental well-being, stimulate local economies, offer alternative transportation routes, preserve cultural and natural heritage, strengthen community identity and pride, and ultimately enhance the quality of life for Kansans.

As we look toward the next chapter of trail development, we are turning to the real experts you, the trail champions. You're the ones with boots on the ground, shovels in the dirt, and deep knowledge of what kinds of investments can truly make a difference.

We invite you to join us for **Sunflower Trails Office Hours**, a new opportunity to share your ideas and help shape the future of trail investments in Kansas. These informal, one-hour virtual sessions will be held on the **4th Tuesday of each month from July through October 2025**, from **12:00 to 1:00 PM (CST)**.

No registration is needed—just use the Zoom link below when it's active to join us and be part of the conversation. We look forward to some good old-fashioned trail talk!