

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2025

60 YEARS OF SERVICE

Supporting our communities
in Topeka & Shawnee Co.



PARS
PREVENTION AND RESILIENCY SERVICES

executive greeting



Dear Community Partners and Friends,

Thank you for joining us in 2025 to celebrate a historic year for PARS, our 60th Anniversary serving the Topeka and Shawnee County communities with drug and alcohol prevention education and early intervention services. We greatly appreciate the generous support of our community sponsors and donors, as well as the many partners, professionals and volunteers that collaborate and help us complete the valuable work we do.

Our two core long-term programs continue to thrive, helping us advance our mission of empowering youth and families. We value our partnerships with local schools and community stakeholders, which allow us to remain focused on supporting youth.

Prevention Education provides evidence-based information that gives young people accurate facts about substance use and associated risks, empowering them to make healthier choices.

Alcohol and Drug Assessments serve as an early intervention tool to help identify youth and adults who may need support related to substance use or other contributing factors that, if unaddressed, could lead to long-term challenges.

As the world around us continues to evolve, so do our programs and strategies. Our efforts in preventing opioid overdose—including expanding access to naloxone within the community—along with the development of Block Talks and Teen Intervene, ensure our organization remains responsive to emerging trends and community needs.

Please take a few minutes to review our accomplishments for 2025. The program highlights are included but more information is available upon request.



With Gratitude,

Tracey Stratton,

2025 PARS Board President

our board

PARS is governed by a diverse group of professionals from Topeka and Shawnee County that generously volunteer their time to provide leadership and direction to keep PARS mission focused and dedicated to serving the community.



Tracey Stratton
President
Advisor's Excel



Nicholas Casarona
Vice President
Mirror Inc.



Gordon Smith
Secretary
Mirror Inc.



Dr. Scott Sainato
Treasurer
Community Member



Lt. Matt Danielson
Topeka Police



Sarah Hagler
Washburn University



Tana Griffith
Topeka Bar Assoc.



Dr. Kara Langin
Washburn University



Michael Wallace
Tenopir & Huerter



Navis Clark
Midland Care



Julie Mayfield
CoreFirst Bank & Trust



Aaron A. Starr
Edward Jones

Not Pictured: **Sarah Davis**
Shawnee County Community Corrections

financial summary

PARS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Below is a recap of the 2024 Form 990.

Total Revenue	\$663,926
Grants & Contributions	\$554,319
Program Service Revenue	\$9,713
Investment Income	\$99,526
Other Revenue	\$368
Total Expenses	\$660,266
Professional Services	\$278,868
Salary & Benefits	\$40,866
Occupancy	\$42,569
Insurance & Depreciation	\$34,958
Conference & Grant Paid	\$100,099
Miscellaneous	\$162,906
Total Assets	\$1,151,792
Total Liabilities	\$92,098

GRANT PARTNERS

- City Special Alcohol & Drug Funds
- County Special Alcohol & Drug Funds
- City of Topeka - General Fund
- City of Topeka - Social Services Funds
- Shawnee County-Safe Streets
- Kansas Department of Corrections
- Kansas Fights Addiction
- Drug Endangered Children in Kansas
- Kansas Coalition on Problem Gambling

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Evergy
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- Heartland RADAC
- NCS
- Edward Jones
- CoreFirst Bank & Trust
- FHLB Topeka
- Cohort Digital
- Azura Credit Union
- Central National Bank
- Compass MAP
- EMS Unlimited
- HR Partners
- Mirror Inc
- Wendling Noe Nelson Johnson
- Fairlawn Plaza Mall*
- Dillons*
- Frito Lay*
- Hy-Vee*
- MARS*
- B Smith Enterprises*

Mirror Inc
3rd Annual Cornhole
Tournament Winners

2nd Place: CoreFirst
Bank & Trust
3rd Place: NCS

*In kind donation

program highlights

PREVENTION EDUCATION

PARS' drug and alcohol prevention education for youth, families, and community individuals uses a diverse set of evidence-based strategies focused on awareness, education, and prevention. Evidence-based approaches have shown that by improving protective factors and limiting risk factors, the behaviors associated with addiction can be mitigated, and the potential for life-long habits can be reduced.

These programs are often offered at **no cost**, thanks to grants and donations.

EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

PARS has a long-time partnership with the local school districts to provide prevention education in the classroom for elementary, middle, and high school students. This allows students to receive current information on an annual basis about drug and alcohol trends and risks.



July 8, 2025 - Overdose and Naloxone Training.

OPIOID OVERDOSE TRAINING

PARS provides training and resources to help individuals identify the signs of a potential overdose and administer Naloxone, an opioid overdose reversal medication.



Naloxone that PARS distributes in the community.

CONTROLLED BUYS

In partnership with the Kansas Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), controlled buy operations are completed to test compliance with laws prohibiting the sale of alcohol to minors in Shawnee County. The results of these operations are shared to help identify and recognize businesses that meet legal standards for responsible alcohol sales.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

PARS partnered with other community organizations, including the city and county, to host community training events on relevant topics.

program highlights

EARLY INTERVENTION

The early intervention program works with identified high-risk youth and adults who are experiencing substance use, with the goal of preventing escalation to drug or alcohol use disorders and minimizing harmful consequences to their health and well-being.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG EVALUATIONS

PARS provides multi-faceted professional assessments for youth and adults who are referred after a substance use event or a suspicion of use—primarily by schools, courts, and attorneys—or for individuals who want to make a positive change in their lives. Our licensed addiction counselor utilizes evidence-based models and industry-specific screening tools to help diagnose an individual's needs, which could include treatment for substance use or other conditions. A Spanish-speaking interpreter is available for individuals and their families.

TEEN INTERVENE

Teen Intervene is an evidence-based early intervention program designed for adolescents with mild to moderate substance use concerns. Delivered in a one-on-one or small-group setting, the program begins with a screening and uses guided discussions to help students explore the reasons behind their alcohol or substance use, understand potential consequences, develop healthy coping skills, and strengthen motivation to make healthier choices.



March 9, 2025 - Overdose and Naloxone Training

ALCOHOL DRUG INFORMATION SCHOOL (ADIS)

ADIS is an 8-hour course required for adults with a first offense drug or alcohol violation in Kansas. It teaches participants the risks associated with drug and alcohol use. PARS is the only agency in NE Kansas offering this course in Spanish.

program highlights

BLOCK TALKS

Block Talks is a partnership of neighbors and community groups facilitated by PARS with goals to strengthen neighborhood trust, reduce isolation, seek solutions as a community, and increase civic participation. It was created in response to a growing need for neighbors to come together and talk about violence, safety, and concerns specific to their neighborhood and lived experiences.

MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY'RE AT

Block Talks happen at times and places that suit their group, whether it's a block party, porch gathering, or virtual discussion. There are no set schedules or expectations.

CREATING CHANGE

Through grassroots efforts, Block Talks is putting the tools for change directly in the hands of community members to foster safety, connections, and resiliency.



September 2, 2025 - Central Park Neighborhood meeting.

COMMUNITY DRIVEN LEADERSHIP

Neighbors develop the group structure and take ownership. The structure is intentionally flexible to allow neighbors to develop their own events and discussions and work at a pace set by them.



August 22, 2025 - Hi-Crest Neighborhood meeting.

BUILDING CONNECTIONS

Block Talks encourage meaningful conversations and collaborations with all community groups that foster deeper relationships within neighborhoods.

program highlights

PREVENTION EDUCATION

The majority of the services provided by Prevention Education are given at no cost thanks to grants and donations from our community partners.

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY PREVENTION EDUCATION

6,942 individuals participated in Prevention Education sessions.

91% participants reported an increase in knowledge and skills regarding substance use, misuse and abuse.

82 sessions of Prevention Education were provided to schools and other community groups.

4 controlled buy operations in Topeka to test the compliance of liquor sales to minors.

47 businesses tested in controlled buys with a 82% compliance rate.

OPIOID OVERDOSE TRAINING

730 individuals who received training to identify and respond to an overdose.

109 individuals in treatment who received training to recognize and respond to an overdose.

454 boxes of Naloxone Nasal Spray were distributed in the community.

996 Fentanyl Test Strips were distributed in the community.

program highlights

EARLY INTERVENTION

Grants and generous community support make it possible to provide these sessions to youth at no cost. PARS is committed to protecting each person's privacy and carefully safeguards the information shared with us.

ALCOHOL & DRUG EVALUATIONS

219

individuals participated in the evaluation process.

93%

of Youth receiving an evaluation reported increased knowledge in understanding the risk associated with substance use.



TEEN INTERVENE

59

teens participated in Teen Intervene.

53

sessions were administrated with teens in schools and detention/correction centers.



ALCOHOL & DRUG INFORMATION SCHOOL (ADIS)

4

8-hour Classes were provided.

18

students attended ADIS classes.

numbers served

SAFE STREETS - BLOCK TALKS

Block Talks empower communities to host gatherings and conversations tailored to their unique needs. Whether it's a family-friendly event, a discussion of local concerns, or a chance to connect, Block Talks provides the structure to make it happen.

27,382

individuals were reached through social media

225

community resources created and/or distributed in the community

18

neighborhoods held Block Talk meetings or learned about how they could start this program in their neighborhood

11

neighborhoods currently operating a Block Talk

76

people in attendance for the Summer on the Block Event

255

requests for support and information were fulfilled

532

new neighborhoods connected with Mutual Aid program

5,003

resources shared within neighborhoods participating in Block Talks through the Mutual Aid program



our staff



Lynn Smith
Community Prevention
Specialist



Haley Gil
Community Prevention
Youth Coordinator



Jenee Workman
BS, LAC, PCCM
Licensed Addiction
Counselor



Isabel Huckins
Block Talks Community
Navigator



Mia Berry
Administrative
Coordinator



Nancy Riegle
Spanish Interpreter

Contractors

Lisa Boyle
Fund Development

Irene Caballero
Spanish ADIS Instructor



(785) 266-8666



parstopeka.org



info@parstopeka.org