



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VISIT HOOD RIVER COMMUNITY INVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS PROJECTS FOR
LOCAL BUSINESSES**

**A Total of \$11,700 in Matching Grants Awarded to Slopeswell Cider & Working Hands
Fermentation, GorgeCurrent, and Wylde Wind & Water.**

(HOOD RIVER, Ore.) – Visit Hood River (VHR) announces recipients of the 2022 Community Investment Matching Grant Program. The program supports businesses and community economic vitality in the greater Hood River area by providing matching grants for applicants that “contribute to the development and improvement of the Hood River community by means of the enhancement, promotion, and sustainability of Hood River as a destination.”

“Community vitality and reinvestment support are key components of the VHR Community Investment Grant Program. VHR is thrilled to support the projects and businesses awarded,” said Katie Kadlub, CEO of Visit Hood River. “The program will continue to support the development of programs, new events, and projects in our community. annually”

Of the three businesses awarded, Slopeswell Cider & Working Hands Fermentation received \$5,200 to bring The Heights Music Showcase to The Heights area, providing weekly music in the taproom and a bi-annual outdoor showcase in October 2022 and April 2023. Gorge Current, a free online curated community calendar for the Columbia Gorge area, received \$4,000 to create collateral and online advertising opportunities for lodging properties and support mid-week visitation. And \$2500 will support the development and expansion of programming for Wylde Wind & Water, a non-profit created to engage people in watersports activities with a focus on water safety.

The mission and purpose of Visit Hood River are to inspire and sustain economic vitality and responsible destination development as stewards of community resources in partnership with local leaders. Entrusted with public and private funds, VHR is committed to developing,

executing, measuring, communicating, and providing ongoing accountability for programs designed to support a robust and enduring economy for businesses, residents, and guests.

For more information on Visit Hood River and Hood River County Chamber of Commerce, visit www.visithoodriver.com.

About the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce dba Visit Hood River:

The Hood River County Chamber of Commerce dba Visit Hood River is a nonprofit business association serving our tourism and business Stakeholders. Located at the crossroads of the spectacular Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and the magnificent Cascade Range and just an hour from Portland, Hood River is truly “Mother Nature’s Favorite,” offering outdoor recreation, dramatic vistas, historic landmarks, bountiful fruit, and fantastic food, wine, beer, and cider. With accommodations ranging from luxury hotels to historic B&Bs, Hood River is a four-season destination for families, outdoor enthusiasts, weddings, corporate events, and more. It was named the West’s best “Nature Lover’s Destination” in the 2021 Sunset Travel Awards, a “Top 10 Best Small Town Beer Scene” in the 2021 USA Today 10Best Readers Choice Awards, a Top 10 Wine Destination for 2017 by Wine Enthusiast, and 2015 “Best Adventure Town” in the West by Sunset magazine. Visit Hood River supports economic development, community development, and destination marketing for Hood River, Cascade Locks, Mosier, Odell, Parkdale, Pine Grove, and Mt. Hood. For more information, call 800-366-3530 or visit www.visithoodriver.com.

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