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Tillamook Coast Visitors Association receives \$65K for accessibility program *Grant funds will improve Tillamook Coast accessibility for locals and visitors alike*

TILLAMOOK, Ore. 28, NOV. 2023 — Tillamook Coast Visitors Association (TCVA) was granted a total of \$65,000 to partner with <u>Wheel the World</u>, a global accessible travel company, in their effort to make Tillamook County more accessible to travelers with disabilities. The funds awarded come from <u>Travel Oregon</u>'s 2023 Competitive Grants Program.

"TCVA is honored to be working with Wheel the World in a concerted effort to upgrade accessibility on the Tillamook Coast," says Dan Haag, TCVA's Director of Trails and Outdoor Recreation. "We see this endeavor as being not only a huge benefit to those planning a trip to the Tillamook Coast, but shining a light on improving accessibility for those who live here."

Wheel the World's commitment is to provide detailed, current information about what is accessible, while understanding that travelers with disabilities each have different needs. TCVA has made a priority of gathering this information for visitors of all abilities to make their time in Tillamook County as safe and comfortable as possible.

"This initiative will help people of all abilities feel secure that they have the most accurate information to make informed decisions before they recreate in Tillamook County," Haag says.

TCVA will work with Wheel the World to conduct an accessibility assessment of local tourism businesses, receive accessibility training through Wheel the World Academy, and have local tourism businesses listed on <u>www.WheeltheWorld.com</u>, a comprehensive guide for travelers with disabilities to find and book accessible travel experiences. The result will be Tillamook Coast becoming a certified Wheel the World destination.

For more information, contact Dan Haag at dan@tillamookcoast.com.

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About Visit Tillamook Coast

Tillamook Coast Visitors Association (dba Visit Tillamook Coast) is a destination management organization committed to sustainable tourism principles of community, stewardship and economic vitality. We support the Tillamook Coast through initiatives guided by those principles, including outdoor recreation, accessibility, culinary/agritourism, cultural heritage/arts, community development, natural resources, and public safety. For more information, go to <u>tillamookcoast.com</u>.