



## Fred Meyer Partners with Linn Benton NAACP

**CORVALLIS, OR – March 30, 2022** – Fred Meyer today announces its plan to implement immediate and longer-term steps developed in collaboration with the Linn Benton Branch of NAACP to accelerate and co-create more just and equitable communities.

Fred Meyer has partnered with the Linn Benton Branch of the NAACP to create a more inclusive community. The partnership will provide a DE&I Framework of Action, which will be available for free for the local community. This endeavor will be funded by a grant from Fred Meyer.

“Anytime we fall short of living our values, we apologize to those who were affected and commit to listening and learning,” said, Dennis Gibson, president of Fred Meyer.

“We know that actions speak louder than words, and we remain committed to delivering on the promises of our *Framework for Action* to accelerate meaningful change in our culture and country,” continued Gibson.

“Among the aims of the NAACP are to foster a social and economic environment free of racial discrimination, and to hold institutions accountable when they fail members in our community. To that end, we appreciate the apology from Fred Meyer and its acknowledgement of the harm that members of our Branch experienced at their Corvallis and Albany stores,” said Jason Dorsette, president of the NAACP, Linn Benton branch.

“We have begun an open and authentic dialogue with corporate representatives at Fred Meyer and look forward to continuing the conversations and implementing measurable changes in the stores that serve our community,” Dorsette added. “We agree that actions are preferable to words or statements, so we at the Linn Benton Branch of the NAACP look forward to facilitating bias, equity, and inclusion workshops and trainings alongside equity, diversity & inclusion consultants in order to operationalize such changes in meaningful ways.”

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### **About Fred Meyer**

Fred Meyer Stores, based in Portland, Ore., offers one-stop shopping at its 132 multi-department stores in four western states. More than 39,000 Fred Meyer associates help customers fill their food, apparel, and general merchandise needs in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Stores range in size from 65,000 to 200,000 square feet and carry more than 250,000 products under one roof.

Additionally, Fred Meyer contributes \$5 million to communities across the Northwest each year through grants from the Fred Meyer Foundation as well as product donations, cash donations and sponsorships. Fred Meyer also donates 6 million pounds of food to local food banks each year via the Food Rescue Program. For more information, please visit our Web site at [www.fredmeyer.com](http://www.fredmeyer.com). To learn more about our *Framework for Action: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion* plan, visit [TheKrogerCo.com/StandingTogether](http://TheKrogerCo.com/StandingTogether).

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