

Kate Lowery-512.657.0925, <u>kate@apccollective.com</u> D'Andra Ulmer-512.689.2203, <u>d@meandthebees.com</u>

ME & THE BEES LEMONADE BUZZES INTO COSTCO WITH NEW VALUE PACK

Exclusive 12-Pack Now Available in Texas and Louisiana Costco Stores Just in Time for Lemonade Season

JUNE 1, 2022. (AUSTIN, TX) – With a brand new club pack at a great value, Me & the Bees Lemonade, has officially launched into Costco for the first time.

The woman and Black-owned lemonade company founded by teen social entrepreneur Mikaila Ulmer when she was just four years old, now offers a new 12-pack of Classic Me & the Bees Lemonade at multiple Costco locations in the Austin, Houston, and San Antonio metro area stores as well as in the Baton Rouge, Lafayette, and New Orleans stores. The ready-to-drink all-natural lemonade club pack is offered for \$17.49 at Costco and will also be available on Instacart to Costco shoppers.

"We always refer to this time of year as 'lemonade season,' which is the perfect time to gather with friends and family to enjoy refreshing beverages," said Me & the Bees Lemonade Founder & CEO, Mikaila Ulmer. "Our Classic lemonade strikes just the right balance between tart and sweet and our new club pack available only at Costco offers a perfect way to sip and share all summer long."

Costco shoppers can sample Me & the Bees Classic Lemonade on **June 2 and June 10** in the 22 Texas and Louisiana stores where it is now sold. A store locator can be found on the company's <u>where to buy web page</u>.

"For Me & the Bees to be selected as a Costco vendor is quite a coup for diverse suppliers in the Southwest," said President and CEO of Southwest Minority Supplier Development Council, Karen Box. "We hope this big news helps the brand to continue to soar to new heights while inspiring other diverse entrepreneurs across the region to realize their dreams and potential."

The all-natural lemonade is made with premium ingredients, including honey as well as flaxseed, a key ingredient to Mikaila's great grandmother's recipe upon which the business was founded in 2009. With it's "Buy a Bottle. Save a Bee." philosophy, the company always keeps its mission of saving the bees at the forefront, by helping educate consumers about the bees' role in the ecosystem and the alarming decline in the bee population. It gives a percentage of its profits to organizations supporting these efforts via Mikaila's non-profit organization the Healthy Hive Foundation which is dedicated to increasing bee awareness and safe environments through research, education, and preservation.

Now offering five flavors in nearly 6,000 distribution points across the country in addition to Costco, the certified minority-owned company also announced this week it has expanded into more than 1,200 Publix supermarket stores across the southeast. It continues to experience high growth from its humble beginnings ranking as an Inc. 5000 Fastest Growing Company in the U.S. and the number one ready-to-drink lemonade growth brand in its category.

About Me & the Bees Lemonade

In 2009, when Mikaila Ulmer found her Great Granny Helen's flaxseed lemonade recipe in a 1940s family cookbook, she was excited to give it a try and tied the sales that started at her lemonade stand to help save the bees from the very beginning. In 13 years, what started as a lemonade stand in a front yard in Austin, Texas, has quickly grown to a national brand with distribution to all 50 U.S. states. In addition to Costco, Me & the Bees Lemonade can be found at Cost Plus World Market, H-E-B, Natural Grocers, Publix, Target, The Fresh Market and Whole Foods Market, as well as at various local retailers and restaurants, and online at GoPuff.com and at www.meandthebees.com. The shelf-stable lemonades contain no high-fructose corn syrup, no preservatives or additives, and are made with premium ingredients including U.S. Grade-A honey, real lemon juice, and flaxseed, which is rich in omega-3 fatty acids and antioxidants. The company donates a portion of the proceeds from every bottle of lemonade it sells to the Healthy Hive Foundation to help educate consumers about the bees' role in the ecosystem and the alarming decline in the bee population. More information can be found at www.meandthebees.com or by reading Mikaila's book, Bee Fearless. Dream Like a Kid, published by Penguin Random House in 2020.