

Bernal Heights Cooperative needs your support.

Bernal Heights Cooperative is a member-owned, non-profit cooperative located in the Bernal Heights Neighborhood of San Francisco

“Bernal” as it is affectionately known, is a group effort to provide our community with a compassionate and safe cannabis program, with affordable access for all.

Established in 2005, Bernal is one of the earliest medical cannabis dispensaries in San Francisco. Known as “The City’s Dispensary”, Bernal provides for the underserved in the Mission/Bernal community and beyond. Nestled into the bottom floor of a three story Victorian at 33 29th Street in Bernal Heights, Bernal has survived the tumultuous early years of medical cannabis to become one of the oldest operating dispensaries in the city. Along the way, Bernal has built a community of patients whose shared relationship with cannabis has molded compassionate programs that provide safe and affordable access to medical cannabis for all San Franciscans.

Medical cannabis looks very different in 2016 than it did in 2005.

As the cannabis industry grows, investment and speculation grow with it. The same 1% that brought us the housing crisis, and our most recent eviction epidemic, is now targeting our medical cannabis community in San Francisco.

The city’s medical cannabis regulations haven’t been updated in nearly ten years, and are now being exploited by slimy investors who have experience with shady real estate practices.

In July of 2015, the Victorian that Bernal calls home was sold to a real estate investment group in Oakland run by a man named Marty Higgins.

Marty is behind the proposed chain of Harvest dispensaries in San Francisco. The first Harvest opened in December of 2015 at 4811 Geary street—where Hemp Center used to call home—after that building was sold to Marty Higgins’ real estate group earlier in the year.

Bernal is being forced out to make room for a more modern luxury dispensary run by an investment group who is speculating on cannabis legalization and the potential for profits.

Why should you care?

Bernal Heights Collective is the last dispensary in the city that offers compassion programs. Free medicine for those in need. Discounts for Seniors, Disabled, and Veterans. Part-time employment opportunities for the growing number of San Francisco's evicted and homeless.

We are the City's last true collective.

Our legacy, the legacy of compassionate medical cannabis in San Francisco, should not be so easily disregarded in the blind pursuit of profit. We believe there is room for both. We work everyday to serve our community, and we want to carry the torch of compassionate medical cannabis forward.

In order to do so, we need your support. Whether you live in the neighborhood, across the bay, or across the globe, this is a cause that impacts the cannabis community everywhere.

The industry is gaining attention from outside investors as speculation continues to grow. Where social good was once the purpose of legal cannabis, profits are the new focus.

We are asking for your support in preserving a legacy of compassion and community service in a city where many people need it more than ever.

Join us in our effort to #savebernal. Please sign if you support our principles.

Thank you,

Bernal Heights Collective
Serving San Francisco since 2005

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