



Plan for Positive Impact on Areas of Disproportionate Impact

Overview

Ascend Mass, LLC (“Ascend”) is dedicated to serving and supporting areas of disproportionate impact, which the Cannabis Control Commission has identified as the following:

1. Past or present residents of the geographic “areas of disproportionate impact,” which have been defined by the Commission and identified in its Guidance for Identifying Areas of Disproportionate Impact;
2. Commission-designated Economic Empowerment Priority applicants;
3. Commission-designated Social Equity Program participants;
4. Massachusetts residents who have past drug convictions; and
5. Massachusetts residents with parents or spouses who have drug convictions are classified as areas of disproportionate impact.

To support such populations, Ascend has created the following Plan to Positively Impact Areas of Disproportionate Impact (the “Plan”) and has identified and created numerous goals and priorities.

Goals

Ascend seeks to:

1. Reduce barriers to entry in the commercial adult-use cannabis industry; and
2. Provide business assets (time, organization skills, finances) towards endeavors that will have a positive impact towards the promotion of sustainable, socially, and economically reparative practices in the cannabis industry in Massachusetts.

Programs

Our commitment is an essential part of the company’s ethos. Specifically, Ascend will:

- 1) In partnership with Suffolk County Sheriff Steven W. Tompkins, Ascend intends to hire ex-offenders from the Suffolk County House of Corrections that have completed job-training and re-entry programs to work within Ascend’s dispensary and who otherwise meet Ascend’s criteria for employment. **As outlined below, Ascend’s goal is to hire six individuals through this program;** and
- 2) Establish a independent charitable foundation in partnership with Ascend Wellness Holdings, LLC.



These initiatives are further outlined in the plan below.

Re-Entry Programs

Ascend will develop a partnership with the Suffolk County Sheriff Department (“SCSD”) to provide referrals of qualified applicants, with a specific focus on hiring individuals with past drug convictions, that have completed job-training and re-entry programs, are under court supervision, and who otherwise meet Ascend’s criteria for employment. This initiative will be managed by the Chief Executive Officer, Human Resources Director, and Dispensary Manager.

Ascend will initially measure its progress through the successful development of a partnership with SCSD. Based on the specifics of that partnership, **Ascend’s goal is to hire six (6) individuals from this partnership.** All employees will receive significant training to reduce barriers to entry to the cannabis industry.

If Ascend does not meet its goals, it must exceed its above-described hiring goals the following year by the number it missed the year before.

The WeGrow Foundation

Ascend will contribute 0.5% of its net revenue to the WeGrow Foundation (the “Foundation”), a fund set up by Ascend Wellness Holdings, the parent company of Ascend. It will be independently run, with its own President/CEO, Executive Director and Board. The specific organizations, businesses and individuals who might receive grants or other assistance from the Foundation will be chosen by the Foundation, based upon the purpose, goals and criteria that it, not Ascend Mass, chooses. As an operationally independent charitable organization, the Foundation, through grants and other giving, will support eligible organizations and programs that provide services to:

1. Past or present residents of the geographic “areas of disproportionate impact,” which have been defined by the Commission and identified in its Guidance for Identifying Areas of Disproportionate Impact;
2. Commission-designated Economic Empowerment Priority applicants;
3. Commission-designated Social Equity Program participants;
4. Massachusetts residents who have past drug convictions; and
5. Massachusetts residents with parents or spouses who have drug convictions are classified as areas of disproportionate impact.

The Foundation will have a board comprised of independent directors with no affiliation or financial interest in Ascend or Ascend Wellness Holdings. Ms. Cabral is serving on the board in an interim capacity until the final board is selected and installed, at which time she will resign.

Plan Administration

The Community Engagement Officer will administer Ascend’s Plan to Positively Impact Areas of Disproportionate Impact (“Plan”). The Community Engagement Officer will be responsible developing specific initiatives, creating partnerships and achieving measurable outcomes to



ensure that Ascend meets the Plan's goals. Ascend will audit the plan annually upon license renewal and will disclose and track measurement metrics. Metrics tracked will include the following:

1. Number of employees hired as part of Ascend's partnership with SCSD. The applicant will count the number of employees hired as part of this partnership and compare to its goal number of six;
2. Funds raised by the WeGrow foundation; and
3. Measures undertaken by the WeGrow Foundation that positively impact areas of disproportionate impact. The applicant will outline a list of all of the philanthropic activities that the WeGrow Foundation has undertaken and prepare documentation outlining how they meet the specific goals of the Cannabis Control Commission.

Disclosures

Ascend will adhere to the requirements set forth in 935 CMR 500.105(4) which provides the permitted and prohibited advertising, branding, marketing, and sponsorship practices of every Marijuana Establishment.

Any actions taken, or programs instituted, by Ascend will not violate the Commission's regulations with respect to limitations on ownership or control or other applicable state laws.

As identified above, Ascend will donate to the Foundation and acknowledges that the Foundation has been contacted and will receive the donation described herein.

