



## WHAT IS EQUITY: EQUITY IN THE CANNABIS INDUSTRY

**equity** |<sup>1</sup>ekwədē| noun - The quality of being fair and impartial: equity of treatment.

### WHAT IS EQUITY?

- Equitable Industry
- Equitable Communities
- Equitable Justice
- Equitable Access

### EQUITABLE INDUSTRY

*Less than 1/5<sup>th</sup> of cannabis business owners identify as minorities, and only ~4% are black.*

Equitable industry through equitable participation and ownership in the legal cannabis industry, including access to capital, reasonable licensing requirements and fees, and access to industry for immigrants and individuals with prior cannabis convictions.

### EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES

*Legal cannabis sales are projected to reach \$23 billion by 2022.*

Equitable communities by reinvesting tax revenues and ensuring responsible corporate citizenship in the communities most affected by the war on drugs.

### EQUITABLE JUSTICE

*People of color are 4 times more likely to be arrested for cannabis possession than whites despite comparable rates of use.*

Equitable justice by reducing arrests and imprisonment for non-violent cannabis offenses and restoring basic rights of citizenship to individuals with non-violent cannabis offenses.

### EQUITABLE ACCESS

*Simple cannabis possession is the 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of deportation for any offense.*

Equitable access through ensuring the availability of safe and consistent cannabis products to immigrants, veterans, seniors, and disabled persons without risk of loss benefits or immigration status.

#### *MCBA Mission Statement*

*Our mission is to create equal access for cannabis businesses and promote economic empowerment for communities of color by creating policy considerations, social programming, and outreach initiatives to achieve equity for the communities most affected by the war on drugs.*