# **RECOMMENDATION REPORT**

OF THE RFA SELECTION COMMITTEE
FOR ADDITIONAL ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT CENTERS

SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DECEMBER 12, 2018

The Selection Committee has completed its review of the applications received pursuant to the Department's Request for Applications to add up to six medicinal marijuana alternative treatment centers and submits this Recommendation Report for further consideration.

#### **RFA BACKGROUND**

On July 16, 2018, the Department of Health ("Department") released an Request for Applications ("RFA") to add up to six new vertically integrated medicinal marijuana permit holders, with up to two in each of the Northern, Central and Southern Regions. The application period for this RFA began on August 1, 2018. Approximately 800 interested applicants and representatives attended a mandatory preapplication conference hosted by the Department on August 9 in the George Washington Ballroom at the War Memorial in Trenton, NJ. Applicants received a step-by-step tutorial on how to file an application online, and Division of Medicinal Marijuana ("Division") Assistant Commissioner Jeff Brown outlined the timeline process, scoring of applications, as well as common questions and answers. The Department received 530 questions from interested applicants regarding the RFA, to which the Department responded on August 15, August 17, and August 20, 2018. The RFA question/answer process afforded applicants a full and fair opportunity to obtain clarification about the RFA process. The application period for the RFA closed on August 31, 2018, with the Department receiving 146 applications from 103 applicant entities. An initial completeness review of applications was conducted by Division staff and applications were released to the Selection Committee on a rolling basis beginning September 18, 2018 for review and evaluation.

## **SELECTION COMMITTEE**

A Selection Committee ("Committee") was established and finalized on August 30, 2018, with six employees representing three Executive Branch departments. All Committee members completed and signed a Personal and Business Relationship Disclosure Form and Confidentiality Agreement.

The Selection Committee consists of the following individuals:

DEPARTI	MENT OF AGRICULTURE:	
DEPARTI	MENT OF HEALTH:	
DEPARTI	MENT OF THE TREASURY:	
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A Selection Committee Kick-off Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at Department headquarters. Committee members were provided instruction on the RFA scoring process and also received training from Chief Diversity Officer Hester Agudosi on bias in the evaluation process. After the completeness review was conducted by Division staff, committee members reviewed and signed a Conflict

of Interest statement. This statement required members to certify that they, and their immediate family, did not have any personal bias, financial interest or relationship, or other real or perceived conflict of interest that may affect impartial evaluation of the applications. Committee members were required to complete this certification prior to evaluating applications.

The Committee members individually completed application scoring on or before Monday, December 10, 2018. Scoring was subjected to a quality control review, which was completed on Wednesday, December 12, 2018. The members of the Committee met on December 12, 2018 at Department headquarters to finalize its recommendations.

Based upon the criteria set forth in the RFA and the Committee members' impartial and thorough review of the applications, the Selection Committee recommends the following applications for further consideration:

### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE

#### NORTHERN REGION

The Selection Committee recommends the following applications in the Northern Region for further consideration:

<b>Control Number</b>	Entity Name	Composite Score
N-0036	NETA NJ LLC	932.1667
N-0032	GTI New Jersey LLC	927.3333
N-0034	Verano NJ LLC	920.8333
N-0005	PharmaCann New Jersey	895.3333
N-0014	Bloom Medicinals	894.3333
N-0010	Liberty Plant Sciences LLC	894.6667

#### **CENTRAL REGION:**

The Selection Committee recommends the following applications in the Central Region for further consideration:

<b>Control Number</b>	Entity Name	Composite Score
C-0047	MPX NJ	958.1667
C-0025	NETA NJ LLC	932.1667
C-0003	Columbia Care New Jersey LLC	929.0000
C-0022	GTI New Jersey LLC	927.3333
C-0023	Verano NJ LLC	920.8333
C-0043	JG New Jersey LLC	913.3333

## SOUTHERN REGION

The Selection Committee recommends the following applications in the Southern Region for further consideration:

<b>Control Number</b>	Entity Name	Composite Score
S-0051	MPX NJ	958.1667
S-0034	NETA NJ LLC	932.1667
S-0004	Columbia Care New Jersey LLC	929.0000
S-0025	GTI New Jersey LLC	927.3333
S-0049	JG New Jersey LLC	913.3333
S-0026	Harvest of New Jersey LLC	911.1667

The members of the Committee individually and collectively agree with the recommendations set forth herein. On this date, December 12, 2018, we submit these recommendations for further consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the Selection Committee.

