



COMPASSIONATE
CERTIFICATION CENTERS

Compassionate Certification Centers

December 2016 - September 2017

Media coverage of Compassionate Certification Centers and the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo.

60

PIECES OF COVERAGE:

435M

ONLINE READERSHIP:

653K

ESTIMATED COVERAGE VIEWS:

454

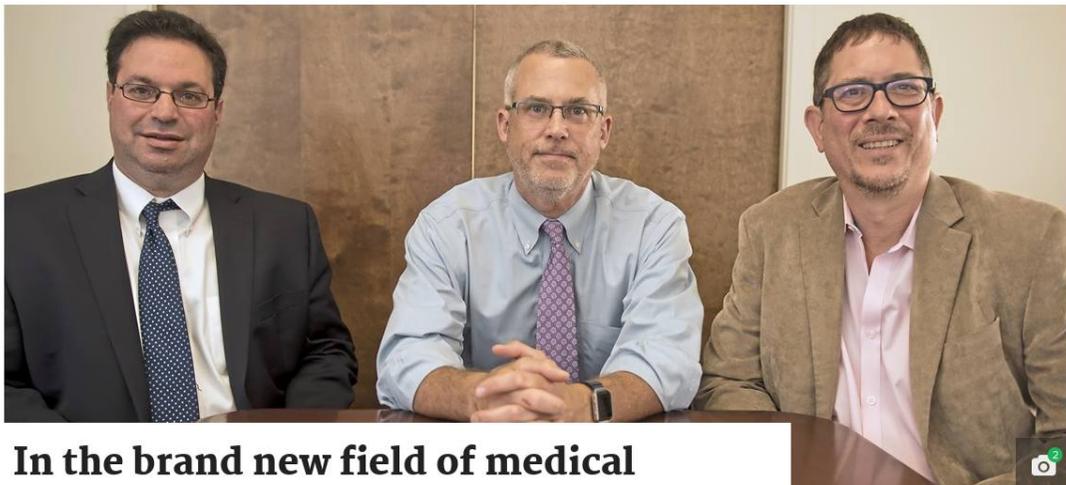
SOCIAL SHARES:

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AVERAGE DOMAIN AUTHORITY:

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Hailey Nelson/Post-Gazette

In the brand new field of medical marijuana law, Pittsburgh firm sees plenty of potential work



STEVE TWEDET ✓
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
stwedt@post-gazette.com

SEP 5, 2017 1:00 PM



The shingle went up just a few weeks ago: a three-attorney Downtown firm, Cannabis Legal Solutions, LLC, has formed the first local practice specializing in medical marijuana law — but it likely won't be the last.

With Pennsylvania's medical marijuana program preparing for launch next year, the legal profession is already getting in position "to help shape a burgeoning industry in Pennsylvania" as the Pennsylvania Bar Association phrased it when forming a medical marijuana and hemp law committee early this year.

Burgeoning or not, a new law firm specializing in legal marijuana matters may look like a risky venture to the unlitigated eye.

Pennsylvania's medical marijuana program is still months from starting and state officials have so far issued only 12 grower-processor permits and 26 medical marijuana dispensary permits for the entire state.

That's not exactly a large client base to draw from.

But the three Cannabis Legal Solutions partners — Patrick Nightingale, Andrew Gross and Alan Patterson — see real potential for this new area of law, even with competing medical marijuana firms in Philadelphia and Harrisburg.

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Yes

No

No opinion

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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **5.07M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **10.1K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **86**



HEALTH

Medical marijuana patient evaluation center opens in Pittsburgh



BEN SCHMITT | Friday, Aug. 25, 2017, 10:30 a.m.



REUTERS



A national medical marijuana network opened an office in Pittsburgh this week to help eligible patients with evaluations and certifications for cannabis treatment.

Compassionate Certification Centers announced Friday its office opened on Stanwix Street in Gateway Center.

Dr. Bryan Doner and Dr. Keyur Patel of Compassionate Certification Centers will oversee the office to provide "medical cannabis evaluations, guidance through the certification process and continued treatment care for eligible patients who have been diagnosed with one of 17 state qualifying conditions."

"We want to set a new benchmark in medical cannabis care. Our physicians and health care providers come from a variety of sub-specialties and are certified by their respective state," Doner said in a news release. "We are more than just certification centers, and we are proud to offer patients ongoing care and support based on their individual needs."

Compassionate Certification Centers plans to open 25 patient centers throughout Pennsylvania. Its officials said that about 200,000 state residents are able to qualify for medical marijuana cards. By Friday, the new Pittsburgh office had already booked 93 patients. No referral is necessary, officials said.

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- Inappropriate
- Okay
- No strong take

NEXT

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:

4.45M

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:

10.7K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY:

83



1



Compassionate Certification
Centers

Industry:
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Compassionate Certification Centers(TM) 2018 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo Returns to Pittsburgh Convention Center April 12-14, 2018

Located in Pennsylvania, the Physician-Led Expo Brings Together Urban and Rural Markets and Key Medical Marijuana States Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia

PITTSBURGH, PA / ACCESSWIRE / May 23, 2017 / [Compassionate Certification Centers™](#) (CCC), a national medical cannabis healthcare network, announced official dates for the 2nd Annual [2018 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo](#) (WMCCExpo), April 12-14, 2018, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA.

Designed to unite medical professionals, patients, and the industry's leading entrepreneurs, the 2018 WMCCExpo merges medical education with cannabis business innovation.

Based in Pennsylvania, the conference is centrally located near emerging medical marijuana programs and key industry players, including: Maryland, Ohio, Michigan, and West Virginia.

The conference will coincide with the first Pennsylvania dispensary openings slated for spring 2018. For more information, visit [ccregister.com](#) or call 1-888-316-9085.

Established by physicians for physicians, CCC™ offers individuals and organizations the ability to license and run their own certification centers for medical cannabis or medical marijuana in legalized states.

"Our conferences serve as a catalyst for healthcare progress and strive to create awareness. We want to inspire people of all different backgrounds to get involved and shape the evolution of this industry," said Compassionate Certification Centers co-founder, Melonie Kotchey.

The inaugural [2017 WMCCExpo](#) received [extensive media coverage](#) and nationwide attendance. Program highlights included educational workshops and high-profile speakers, from Heisman Trophy Winner Ricky Williams and Forensic Science Consultant Dr. Cyril Wecht, to Pennsylvania Senators Daylin Leach and Mike Folmer.

Nearly 4,000 attendees are expected to attend next year's 2018 WMCCExpo, including 150 exhibiting companies, and dozens of medical, investment, and industry thought leaders.

"We look forward to returning this historic conference to Pittsburgh. Pennsylvania's patient-oriented bill and well-executed program timeline has set a benchmark for future legislation, and is already projected to be in the top five medical cannabis markets by 2020," said Dr. Bryan Doner, co-founder of Compassionate Certification Centers.

For tickets or information, call 1-888-316-9085 or visit [ccregister.com](#).

About Compassionate Certification Centers™

Compassionate Certification Centers™, a Syndikos Investments, LLC portfolio brand, is based in Delaware and Pennsylvania. Compassionate Certification Centers provides the resources and ability to license, operate, and open your own Compassionate Certification Center backed by the brand and knowledge only Physicians have. CCC has a unique patient membership and health care provider membership, as well as a full directory available in all legalized states. For more information, visit <https://www.compassionatecertificationcenters.com> or join the discussion at Facebook, Twitter,

Compassionate Certification Centers(TM) 2018 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo Returns to Pittsburgh Convention Center April 12-14, 2018

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS **MAY 23 2017** **102K**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **6.42K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **43**

Meet Compassionate Certification Centers: The Company Merging Education And Entrepreneurship In Cannabis



Javier Hasse, Benzinga Staff Writer | FOLLOW+

May 12, 2017 2:10pm | Comments



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A few years ago, Dr. Bryan Doner and Melonie Kotchey decided to invest in the cannabis industry and started a process of vetting diverse companies in an effort to understand the space. After roughly 12 months of research, they came up with the idea to start their own business, **Compassionate Certification Centers**, with the objective of providing resources to providers and patients.

Benzinga recently had the chance to chat with Doner, now CEO and medical director of CCC, and Kotchey, chief operating officer, and ask them a few questions about their company and their recent World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo, a physician-led medical marijuana conference held in late April that featured former NFL players, U.S. Senators, businesswomen, entrepreneurs and, of course, healthcare professionals.

Q&A With CCC

Benzinga: *Can you walk us through what CCC does?*

Kotchey: We offer individuals and organizations the ability to license and run their own certification centers for medical cannabis or medical marijuana. Our program offers the features, tools and resources for investors or physicians to use our worldwide branding for full spectrum marketing and networking, in order to open these centers in all-legalized states in the United States of America.

We can be as hands on or as hands off as our clients need; in fact, we can actually meet all three different business models that the states need.

Doner: One of the things that we saw whenever we started exploring the industry was there was a big gap, a large unmet need among providers, who weren't receiving the necessary education, tools and resources they needed to safely and effectively integrate medical cannabis into a practice.

What we wanted to do was not just limit what we were providing to physicians or providers, but we really wanted to expand that to give other people who are interested in entering the industry from a medical standpoint the tools and resources to be able to do that from the top down.

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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **2.12M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **7.17K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **76**



Experts at Pennsylvania conference say cannabis can help fight opioid epidemic



Dr. Matthew Roman, founder of Nature's Way Medicine, based in Wilmington, Del., said the majority of his patients that use medical marijuana are able to slowly lower their prescription opioid dosage. Eric Devlin — Digital First Media

By Eric Devlin, edevlin@21st-centurymedia.com, @Eric_Devlin on Twitter

POSTED: 05/08/17, 7:23 PM EDT | UPDATED: ON 05/08/2017 0 COMMENTS

Editor's note: This is the third in a series of stories on medical cannabis and how its legalization will impact Pennsylvanians.

PITTSBURGH >> As the opioid epidemic continues to decimate communities here at home and across the country, experts at the first-ever World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh recently looked at what role medical marijuana can play in helping to bring it to an end.

The hour-long Opioids to Cannabis panel looked at recent statistics showing states that have regulated medical cannabis markets see a decrease not only in opioid related overdoses, but the total number sold as well. The panel discussed the relevant research available and future treatment opportunities.

Included in the discussion were Dr. Matthew Roman, founder of Nature's Way Medicine, based in Wilmington, Del.; Dr. Thomas Whitten, a pain management specialist based in Greensburg, Pa.; Kevin Boehnke, a doctoral candidate at the University of Michigan School of Public Health in Ann Arbor; Kirk Reid, founder of Captain Kirk's Edibles, and Nate Jackson, a cannabis user and a former NFL tight end, who played most of his career with the Denver Broncos. Dr. Bryan Doner, a practicing emergency physician and CEO and co-founder of Compassionate Certification Centers, a medical marijuana marketing and consulting company, moderated the discussion.



The Opioid to Cannabis panel at the first-ever World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh recently looked at what role medical marijuana can play in helping to bring it to an end. Eric Devlin — Digital First Media

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Experts at Pennsylvania conference say cannabis can help fight opioid epidemic

MAY 8 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: 486K

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: 2.39K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: 65

NEWS AND TRENDS / CANNABIS

Researchers Amazed by Cases of Cannabis Helping Children Failed by Conventional Medicine

A growing body of data is showing CBD, the active ingredient in medical marijuana, is a powerfully effective medicine for children suffering rare seizure disorders

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Andre Bourque - Guest Writer

Cannabis Journalist | Tech Evangelist Covering High Growth Trends



May 3, 2017 6 min read

Opinions expressed by Entrepreneur contributors are their own.

Winding through the lush valleys of Pennsylvania the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio rivers flow. At their confluence is the city of three rivers: Pittsburgh.

Long-dubbed "Steel City," Pittsburgh's industrial landscape has evolved since the heyday of the steel mills. These days, Pittsburgh's 1,600 technology firms are helping redefine the town, generating \$20.7 billion in annual payrolls. Now, Pittsburgh is gradually growing to be a notable player in the cannabis research space, as well.

Pittsburgh and cannabis.

On April 17, 2016, Pennsylvania's governor signed a medical marijuana program into law, making it the 24th state permitting medical cannabis distribution. Part of the law includes a publicly funded, state-run research program to study marijuana's effectiveness in treating 17 medical conditions.

The Pittsburgh School of Medicine researched and announced that male subjects who consumed cannabis between the ages of 15 and 26 were "not at a heightened risk for maladjustment in adulthood," dispelling a long-held myth. Another University of Pittsburgh study was first to assert that smoking

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: 20.9M

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: 27.1K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: 91



8



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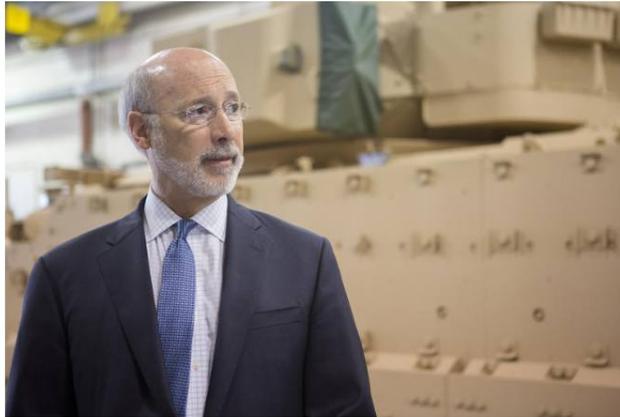


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As Medical Cannabis Implemented, Wolf Says PA Not Ready For Recreational Weed

By KEVIN GAVIN • MAY 3, 2017

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Gov. Tom Wolf pictured on May 1, 2017 in York, Pa. while announcing the creating of new jobs with the expansion of BAE Systems.

GOV.TOM WOLF / FLICKR



Listen 4:10

Gov. Wolf tells WESA's Kevin Gavin he supports the currently allowed forms of medical cannabis which doesn't include leaf marijuana.

Pennsylvania is on track to have medical cannabis on dispensary shelves come next April, according to Gov. Tom Wolf.

However, the legally permissible forms of medical marijuana might be more varied than originally thought.

The law, as passed, allows medical cannabis in pills, oils, topical treatments and liquids.

"There is no THC in (those) forms of the marijuana," Wolf said. THC stands for tetrahydrocannabinol, which is the part that creates a high.

At the recent World Medical Cannabis Conference in Pittsburgh, state Sen. Daylin Leach (D-Montgomery) told attendees that he expects the medical marijuana will also be available in a smokeable plant form when the dispensaries open for business.

Leach, a prime sponsor of the legislation, said there's a provision that allows and



As Medical Cannabis Implemented, Wolf Says PA Not Ready For Recreational Weed

MAY 3 2017

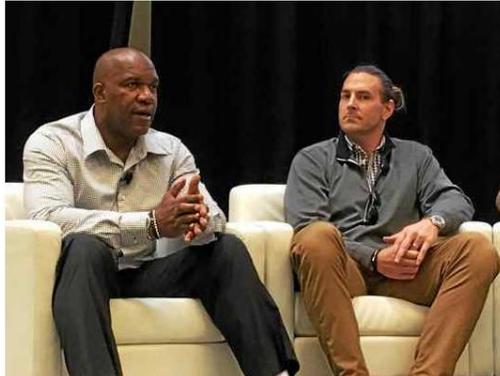
(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: 158K

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: 933

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: 58



Former NFL stars push pot for pain management at Pittsburgh conference



Former Eagles offensive guard Todd Herremans and Marvin Washington, who won a Superbowl ring with the Denver Broncos, were among the advocates for the use of medical marijuana a panel discussion at the first-ever World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh recently. Eric Devlin — Digital First Media

By Eric Devlin, *The Mercury*

POSTED: 05/01/17, 10:06 AM EDT | UPDATED: ON 05/01/2017

0 COMMENTS

Editor's note: This is the second in a series of stories on medical cannabis and how its legalization will impact Pennsylvanians.

PITTSBURGH >> Four former NFL athletes, including former Eagles offensive guard Todd Herremans, came out of the "green closet" to voice their support for medical marijuana during the first-ever World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh recently.

At the hour-long "Sports and Cannabis" panel, they represented a new organization called Athletes for CARE and talked about the benefits of medical marijuana and finding alternative treatments to opiates and prescription anti-inflammatory medication for pain management. They also discussed helping athletes find success after they hang up their jerseys and retire.

"What we're trying to do is educate people on cannabis," Herremans said. "Advocate for it and try and get it re-regulated. We want it to be more accessible. We think it's very healthful to the public. Personally it helped me throughout my career."

Herremans, along with former athletes Marvin Washington, Eben Britton and Nate Jackson joined Lindie Snyder, a medical marijuana financial investor and daughter of the late Ed Snider, the owner of the Flyers and former chairman of Comcast Spectacor, and Kevin Provost, of Greenhouse Ventures,



Former NFL athletes Eben Britton, a former offensive lineman with the Chicago Bears and Jacksonville Jaguars and Nate Jackson, who spent most of his NFL career with the Denver Broncos joined Lindie Snyder, a medical marijuana financial investor and daughter of the late Ed Snider, to advocate for medical marijuana at the first-ever World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh recently. Eric Devlin — Digital First Media

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Former NFL stars push pot for pain management at Pittsburgh conference

MAY 1 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **283K**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **1.66K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **58**

ALLEGHENY

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell says marijuana is addictive and unhealthy for players



BEN SCHMITT | Friday, April 28, 2017, 11:42 a.m.



GETTY IMAGES

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said on a radio talk show that he thinks marijuana is 'addictive' and unhealthy for players.

A week after a medical marijuana conference brought former football players to Pittsburgh to advocate the benefits of cannabis use in controlling pain, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell proclaimed on a sports talk show that the drug is addictive and unhealthy for players.

"It does have an addictive nature," Goodell said Friday on the ESPN show "Mike & Mike." "There are a lot of compounds in marijuana that may not be healthy for the players long term. All of those things have to be considered. And it's not as simple as someone just wants to feel better after a game. We really want to help our players in that circumstance, but I want to make sure that the negative consequences aren't something that is something that we'll be held accountable for some years down the road."

Last weekend's World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo at Downtown's David L. Lawrence Convention Center brought the likes of former Heisman Trophy winner and former NFL running back Ricky Williams to push pro-pot agendas.

While NFL players are allowed to take heavy prescription drugs, such as opioids, for pain, marijuana remains a banned substance.

"If you get in the drug program and you get in trouble, it's so punitive," Williams told the Tribune-Review while discussing NFL drug policies. "Players aren't getting help. They are only getting punished for something that I think we can at least make the argument is probably healthier than opioids and prescription drugs that players are taking."

TRENDING LOCAL



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4-QUESTION TRIB POLL

SpongeBob SquarePants the musical: yay or nay?

- Yay
Nay
No opinion

NEXT

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:

4.45M

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:

10.7K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY:

83

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Medical Marijuana, Inc. Sees Great Media Exposure From World Medical Conference And Expo In Pittsburgh With Numerous Articles And TV Interviews



By Compassionate Certification Centers Posted April 27, 2017 In Press Releases



News highlights success of children using Company's CBD hemp oil; features executives speaking on burgeoning medical cannabis industry.

SAN DIEGO, April 26, 2017 /PRNewswire/ — **Medical Marijuana, Inc.** (OTC: MJNA), the first publicly traded cannabis company in the United States, today announced that it received extensive media coverage on the successful April 21-22 World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh, Pa., which brought thousands of people from around the world to learn about the benefits of medical marijuana.

Medical Marijuana, Inc.'s CEO Dr. Stuart Titus spoke to several television and radio stations about the future of the medical marijuana industry and the Company's groundbreaking **Real Scientific Hemp Oil™ (RSHO™)** and zero-THC **Real Scientific Hemp Oil-X™ (RSHO-X™)**. Dr. Titus was also a featured panelist where he spoke about industrial hemp in Pennsylvania, along with the state's House of Representatives member, Eric Nelson.

"This World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo was a huge success and once again confirmed that medical marijuana is one of the fastest growing industries," said Dr. Titus. "We were so proud of the families who shared their children's stories, as we've seen time and again in legalization efforts across the nations, families of young children with special needs are the driving force of cannabis reform."

Other media coverage focused on the families of young medical cannabis patients who came to the conference to tell their stories about how they discovered that using cannabis could help treat their children who suffer debilitating conditions.

"This changed my life, my daughter's life and the lives of all my family," said medical cannabis activist Raul Elizalde of Monterey, Mexico, in a [Pittsburgh Action News 4 article](#).

Additionally, the company garnered national coverage from renowned outlets such as [CNN Money](#) and [Entrepreneur](#) around well-known cannabis holiday 4/20.

Additional coverage from the Conference included:

- Pittsburgh's Action News 4 (ABC): <http://www.wtae.com/article/world-medical-cannabis-conference-comes-to-pittsburgh/9543402>
- Pittsburgh's NIGHTTALK (NBC): <https://www.dropbox.com/s/ihmc756hmd43v3/PCNC%2004-21-17%20Pittsburgh%20Conference.mp4?dl=0>
- News WPXI.com: <http://www.wpxi.com/news/top-stories/pittsburgh-hosts-medical-marijuana-expo/514960482>
- CBS Pittsburgh Radio: <http://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/audio/kdka-afternoon-news/>
- The Nicole Sandler Show: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvzjIMraP_g
- Erskine Overnight: <http://erskineovernight.com/show-archives/>
- Pittsburgh Urban Media: <http://www.pittsburghurbanmedia.com/Children-and-CTE-in-Sports-a-Focus-at-Pittsburgh-World-Medical-Cannabis-Conference-By-Andrew-Hard/>
- CBS Pittsburgh TV also featured the company and products



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May 2, 2018

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:	39.2K
(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:	6.56K
DOMAIN AUTHORITY:	30

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TOP STORY

Hemp to be grown in experiment at I-70 Industrial Park

By Pat Cloonan pcloonan@heraldstandard.com Apr 26, 2017 0



On Glacier Drive, on Westmoreland I-70 Industrial Park grounds, East Huntingdon, PA five acres of hemp for industrial purposes will be grown.

[f](#)
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A medical cannabis company will utilize a 5-acre site on the I-70 Industrial Park grounds in South Huntingdon Township for a hemp farming experiment that could create a new source of jobs in Westmoreland County.

"Our farmers desperately need a new crop that is commercially viable and offers a more stable volume," said Matthew Mallory, founder of Commonwealth Alternative Medicinal Options LLC of Pittsburgh, also known as CAMO.

Earlier this month, the Westmoreland County commissioners, serving as the board of directors of the Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corp., approved a short-term land lease agreement with CAMO for the site behind the Target Drilling site along Glacier Drive.

WCIDC Executive Director Jason Rigone touted the agreement as "an opportunity to put unused land at the I-70 Industrial Park to use by supporting research and development for a potential new industry."

CAMO will begin raising hemp this year in an area accessible by foot or four-wheel drive vehicle. It is not far from a Wendell H. Stone Co. facility and the Dick's Sporting Goods distribution center

[f](#)
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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **165K**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **1.02K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **56**

Online Poll

What were you most interested in this past weekend?

- Penguins in the playoffs
- Pirates, due to hot start
- Steelers draft
- All of the above
- None of the above

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CannabisNow



Pennsylvania Marijuana Patient Jailed



Costa Rica Finds NFL Player's Holiday Stash



Pennsylvania Runs Out of Medical Marijuana in 3 Weeks



Doctors Pressure The NFL To Allow Cannabis Use



Photo by Gracie Malley for Cannabis Now

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Physicians Join in Pennsylvania Cannabis Expo

Event geared towards health care providers takes place in Pennsylvania as the state establishes its medical marijuana program.

By [Ellen Komp](#)
Published on April 26, 2017

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1 COMMENT

The [World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo](#) was held at the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania convention center on April 21 and 22, just as Pennsylvania marked the first anniversary of its medical marijuana law.

The conference was co-sponsored by [Greenhouse Ventures](#) and [Compassionate Certification Centers](#), a company that seeks to give physicians and health care providers the tools they need to integrate medical cannabis into their practice, as well as offer a platform for patient advocacy and support.

The event had both a general interest and a continuing medical education track, which drew 150 doctors, nurses and pharmacists who earned credentials, as well as chiropractors and holistic physicians. Attendees came from Pennsylvania, Florida, New York, Ohio, Texas and Nevada, according to Dr. Bryan Doner, the CEO of Compassionate Certification Centers.

Physician buy-in will be key for the [Pennsylvania program](#), which requires doctors to attend a four-hour training program on medical cannabis, and



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Seattle Plans to Clear Cannabis Convictions



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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **356K**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **31K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **40**

1

POT BOOM: 3,000 attend medical marijuana expo in Pennsylvania



Industry leaders discussed the use of cannabis to treat opioid addiction during a panel discussion at the World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh Friday. Eric Devlin — Digital First Media

By Eric Devlin, edevlin@21st-centurymedia.com, @Eric_Devlin on Twitter

POSTED: 04/25/17, 1:54 PM EDT | UPDATED: ON 04/25/2017 0 COMMENTS

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of stories on medical cannabis and how its legalization will impact Pennsylvanians.

PITTSBURGH >> It's been a year since Gov. Tom Wolf signed the bill making medical marijuana legal in Pennsylvania planting the seeds of capitalism in a new industry. Now one of the biggest signs that this industry could be about to explode was seen Friday along the banks of the Allegheny River. Now the two biggest movements in the state are to step up education about the benefits of the drug and connecting various groups together to help launch the industry.

The Steel City played host to the first ever World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo inside the David L. Lawrence Convention Center Friday and Saturday. About 3,000 people were expected to attend the event, which featured about 150 different vendors and included several panel discussions with industry leaders on topics like the use of cannabis to treat opioid addiction, the medical benefits of cannabis among professional athletes and children.

Among those in attendance included former Eagles offensive guard Todd Herremans and Lindie Snider, a medical marijuana financial investor and daughter of the late Ed Snider, the owner of the Flyers and former chairman of Comcast Spectacor.



Former professional athletes Eben Britton and Nate Jackson sat next to Lindie Snider, a medical marijuana financial investor and daughter of the late Ed Snider, the owner of the Flyers and former chairman of Comcast Spectacor, during a panel discussion at the World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh Friday. Eric Devlin — Digital First Media

The event was presented by [Compassionate](#)

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POT BOOM: 3,000 attend medical marijuana expo in Pennsylvania

APR 25 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: 24.9K

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: 1.57K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: 43

1

Former ACC Head Backed Trina's Diabetes Therapy

Morning Break: Killer Lettuce; One Thumb Up for Plazomicin; Lifesaving Wearable

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Medical Cannabis Expo: Practice Runs Ahead of Science

— With legal barriers holding up research, patients aren't waiting for randomized trials

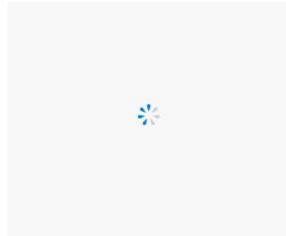
by Richard Peck, Contributing Writer, MedPage Today
April 24, 2017



PITTSBURGH -- Professional football players know pain, but some say they want a way out of team-based regimens of pills and injections they say leave them feeling angry and debilitated. The way out? Medical marijuana, the focus of the first-ever [World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo](#) -- a conference that started, fittingly, the day following the traditional April 20 "pot holiday."

As medical conferences go, it was highly atypical. Science was not at the forefront; not many American investigators feel comfortable investigating a substance that is Schedule 1 illegal, by federal law. Also, the conference was supported by a unique group of exhibitors, more than 80, ranging from marijuana growers to dispensaries to specialized laboratories to manufacturers of cannabis delivery systems, including sublingual tabs, vape pens, and edibles (with featured guest Laurie Wolf, dubbed the "Martha Stewart" of edibles).

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The social momentum favoring medical marijuana is undeniable. Currently 28 (soon to be 36) states have legalized medical marijuana for conditions such as chronic pain, seizure disorders, and traumatic brain injury, and these states are busily creating safe and effective treatment networks to support its use. All this momentum culminated in the pioneering conference founded by Pittsburgh's Compassionate Certification Centers for medical marijuana administration and its CEO, Bryan Doner,

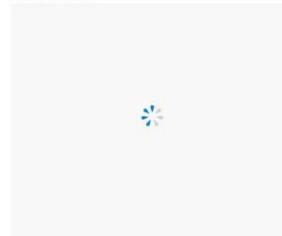
DO.

Whatever the conference lacked in science it made up for with compelling stories.

The stories, for example, of those professional football players looking to avoid the pain pill mills they see foisted upon them by teams trying to keep them on the field. Of mothers of profoundly ill children wanting relief from major side effects of standard treatments. Of sufferers from chronic pain who have been ostracized from receiving any standard treatment whatever after being discovered having experimented with cannabis.

Eben Britton, former offensive lineman for the Jacksonville Jaguars and Chicago Bears, said, "I received painkillers like Ativan, Celebrex and toradol injections before and after the game for various injuries throughout my career, and guys like me are finding these are wreaking havoc with their bodies, physically and mentally. For me, juxtaposing the use of opiates, which made me angry, irritable, and suffering withdrawal symptoms, against the use of cannabis showed me a much more healing experience. I could cope with the stress and anxiety of being isolated with injury and was able to feel both emotionally and spiritually rejuvenated, and ready to grind it out again."

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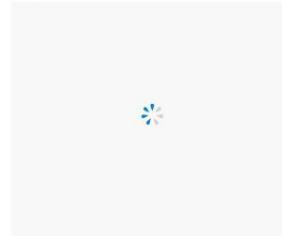
Former ACC Head Backed Trina's Diabetes Therapy

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Medical Cannabis Expo: Practice Runs Ahead of Science

APR 24 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **1.36M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **4.03K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **79**



38



3

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Ex-NFL star Ricky Williams speaks at medical marijuana convention



OMARI SANKOFA II Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
osankofa@post-gazette.com

APR 23, 2017 4:00 AM



In 2004, Ricky Williams retired from the NFL for the first time after failing his third NFL-mandated drug test in five seasons.



He never imagined that, more than a decade later, he would be touring the country as an unofficial marijuana expert.



Williams' reputation has since transformed with the rise of legal medicinal and recreational marijuana use. The former star running back has embraced the drug that tarnished his NFL public image and cost him millions in salary, per his estimate.



The former NFL star running back, who said he speaks at between six and 10 marijuana conventions per year across the country, was part of an athlete's panel at the World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo Saturday, which was held at the David L. Lawrence Center.

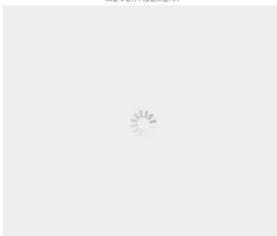
"The word medical marijuana didn't exist [in 2004]," Williams told the Post-Gazette before addressing a crowd of a few hundred people at the panel. "People talking about health and cannabis, it didn't exist. And now that it does, players can be educated on what are the possible side effects, how does this work, and how to use it in ways that are going to be most productive."

Williams has become a public advocate for marijuana use in the NFL as a way of treating pain and concussions. As a player, Williams preferred



Wilfredo Lee/Associated Press

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Yes

No

No opinion

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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **5.07M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **10.1K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **86**

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POT BOOM: Less Cheech and Chong and more doctors and lawyers at medical marijuana expo in Pennsylvania

By Eric Devlin Digital First Media Apr 23, 2017 Comments



Editor's note: This is the first in a series of stories on medical cannabis and how its legalization will impact Pennsylvanians.

PITTSBURGH >> It's been a year since Gov. Tom Wolf signed the bill making medical marijuana legal in Pennsylvania - planting the seeds of capitalism in a new industry.

Now one of the biggest signs that this industry could be about to explode was seen Friday along the banks of the Allegheny River. The two biggest movements in the state are about to step up education on the benefits of the drug and connect various groups together to help launch the industry.

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The Advance of Bucks County

APR 23 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **54.9K**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **1.27K**

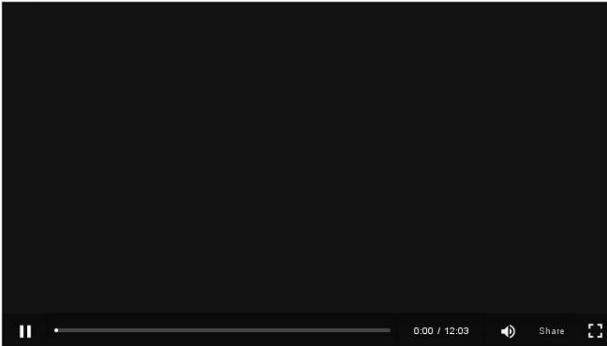
DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **48**

Green Rush Hits Pa. During Medical Cannabis Expo

Co-hosted by Greenhouse Ventures, a Philadelphia-based incubator for medical cannabis businesses, the convention brought together researchers, veterans, doctors, advocates and entrepreneurs.

By Alicia Victoria Lozano

Published at 12:27 AM EDT on Apr 23, 2017 | Updated at 1:21 AM EDT on Apr 23, 2017



NBC10's Alicia Lozano attended the World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, over the weekend. During her time there, she spoke with Jake Eerie as he made a glass water pipe, State Senator Daylin Leach about why he believes recreational marijuana will come to Pennsylvania, State Senator Mike Folmer about his experien... [Read more](#) (Published Sunday, April 23, 2017)

Now Playing: World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo

Up Next: Triple Shooting Leaves 1 Dead

Southwest Flight from Chicago Diverted Due to Cracked Window

Cosby Sex Assault Retrial: Guilty on All 3 Counts

The first of ongoing reporting that looks at cannabis in Pennsylvania, NBC10 reporter Alicia Lozano goes behind the scenes at the World Medical Marijuana Conference & Expo in Pittsburgh.

• NJ Gubernatorial Candidates Consider Broader Marijuana Laws

Eighty miles outside Pittsburgh a billboard asked drivers which option they would prefer to treat pain: opioids or medical marijuana? "The choice should be yours," the sign read.

• 7 Arrested as Free Pot Offered to Congress in 'JointSession'

The billboard spoke to two of the biggest issues facing Pennsylvania — addiction and the push to join a rapidly expanding green rush.

It's no wonder, then, that the World Medical Marijuana Conference & Expo was held in Pittsburgh Friday and Saturday. Co-hosted by Greenhouse Ventures, a Philadelphia-based incubator for medical cannabis businesses, the convention brought together researchers, veterans, doctors, advocates and entrepreneurs.

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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:

2.21M

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:

7.77K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY:

75



Ex-NFL star Ricky Williams speaks at medical marijuana convention



Wilfredo Lee/Associated Press



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Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
osankofa@post-gazette.com

APR 23, 2017 12:00 AM

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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **5.07M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **10.1K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **86**

HEALTH

Medical pot advocates converge at Pittsburgh conference



BEN SCHMITT | Friday, April 21, 2017, 11:42 a.m.



ANDREW RUSSELL | TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Kimberly Wilson, of Suffolk, VA, and representative for All About Solutions, is framed by a large fake Marijuana plant at the World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, downtown, Friday, April 21, 2017. Wilson was diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2014 that triggered an autoimmune disease that left her wheelchair bound. After CBH tincture, Wilson was able to walk again.



Thousands of medical marijuana advocates, among them former NFL players, kicked off Pittsburgh's first-ever medical pot conference Friday at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Downtown.

Ticket sales for the two-day conference exceeded expectations, said Melanie Kotchey, chief operating officer of conference host Compassionate Certification Centers.

"Our goal is to unite physicians, patients and investors," Kotchey said.

Kevin Provost, CEO of co-host Greenhouse Ventures, walked the floor Friday morning in a suit and tie. His company, which is based in Philadelphia, helps spur the growth of startups serving the evolving industry.

"Outsiders may view the cannabis industry as an amateur, even underground industry and that's not true at all," he said. "You're going to see investors, physicians, lawyers, accountants, athletes and insurance people who are now trying to leverage their skill sets in this industry.

"It's exciting to see Pennsylvania positioning itself in the medical marijuana sphere."

Gov. Tom Wolf signed a medical marijuana bill into law a year ago.

The state health department is regulating the program, which forbids smoking marijuana in dry leaf form. Medical marijuana in Pennsylvania will be available in

TRENDING NEWS



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Funny out of office messages: Inappropriate or okay?

- Inappropriate
- Okay
- No strong take

NEXT

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **4.45M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **10.7K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **83**



21

PENNSYLVANIA REAL-TIME NEWS

What we learned at Pa. medical marijuana conference

Posted April 21, 2017 at 06:20 PM | Updated April 22, 2017 at 06:59 AM

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Conference attendees move about the floor during the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center on Friday April 21, 2017 in Pittsburgh. Barry Reeger | Special to PennLive

World Medical Cannabis Conference comes to Pittsburgh

On Friday, the World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo opened in Pittsburgh. The event includes workshops — everything from how to cook with cannabis to how cannabis can benefit sick children and military veterans. The two-day expo also includes a number of speakers and vendors touting the medical benefits of marijuana inside Pittsburgh's David L. Lawrence Convention Center.



(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **4.75M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **16.1K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **76**



Pittsburgh hosts medical marijuana expo

Updated: Apr 21, 2017 - 7:02 PM



PITTSBURGH - Medical-marijuana advocates gathered in Pittsburgh on Friday. The city played host to the World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo. Thousands of people from around the world came to learn about the benefits of medical marijuana.

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Hector Elizalde said it changed his daughter's life. The 9-year-old girl had hundreds of seizures and not even brain surgery could stop them.

But cannabidiol did.

"When you see a child suffering as much as my daughter or other patients, it's wrong not to give them the opportunity to feel better," Elizalde said.

The conference continues Saturday at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center downtown.

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: 2.31M

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: 11.7K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: 64

NEW The oldest site of human habitation in North America is in Pittsburgh's backyard

MEDICAL CANNABIS IN PA.

Pennsylvania state senators who championed medical marijuana hopeful program will be running by Valentine's Day 2018

They're also not super worried about the feds.



MARK/EGGROLE/FLICKR

 SARAH ANNE HUGHES

APR 21 2017 · 5:38 P.M.

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The two state senators who championed medical marijuana in Pennsylvania are hopeful the program will be up and running by Valentine's Day 2018.

That's when Sen. Daylin Leach believes the first patients will be able to get cannabis from the state's yet-to-open dispensaries, he said Friday afternoon at a [medical marijuana conference in Pittsburgh](#). Leach and Sen. Mike Folmer emphasized that there's no firm timeline, as growers and processors will still have to, well, grow and process cannabis after they receive licenses.

Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf signed the state's medical marijuana bill into law on April 17 of last year. It allows physicians who undergo four hours of training to prescribe cannabis to patients with 17 conditions including pain. The Department of Health will issue up to 27 permits for dispensaries during the first phase of rollout, meaning 150 dispensaries will be able to operate statewide in different zones. The state will also issue up to 12 permits for growers and processors initially. Applications closed at the end of March, and the state should award licenses at the end of June, the senators said.

Competition for those licenses is fierce. When asked about ensuring diversity in the industry, Leach said applicants can gain points for being a minority or woman, for example. But both Leach and Folmer stressed that there's no special way to obtain one. Even Wolf has a best friend who is applying, Leach said, but the governor can't — and won't — do anything to help.

Even though the medical program isn't up and running yet, Friday's conversation turned to what's next — namely, recreational pot.

Folmer, a Republican from Central Pa., said he's not against legalization, but added that he can't be at the front of this issue because of the promises he had to make to his caucus to get

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- [A Pittsburgh man was jailed after testing positive for marijuana. He was a licensed medical marijuana patient.](#)
- [Pennsylvania's medical marijuana program expands to include the smokable plant — but there's a catch](#)
- [How to build a successful medical marijuana company in Pennsylvania](#)
- [What we learned at the World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh](#)
- [420 Games in Pittsburgh: Equating cannabis use with healthy living instead of just junk food](#)
- [Advisory board recommends adding smokable marijuana to Pa.'s medical marijuana program, minus the smoke](#)
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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:	198K
(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:	14.1K
DOMAIN AUTHORITY:	42

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Medical Marijuana Conference Brings People From All Over The World To Pittsburgh

April 21, 2017 at 9:02 pm

Filed Under: David Highfield, David L. Lawrence Convention Center, John Shumway, Marijuana, Medical Marijuana, World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo



PITTSBURGH (KDKA) – An artificial marijuana plant is the closest thing to pot you'll get under the David L. Lawrence Convention Center roof this weekend. There's not a joint in site.

"Not at all," says Bryan Doner, the CEO of Compassionate Certification Centers. "This is really a medical focus more than anything."

People have come to Pittsburgh from all over the world for the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo.

Retired football player Ricky Williams, who supports legalizing marijuana, was the star attraction there Friday night. Forensic pathologist Cyril Wecht also spoke.

KDKA's David Highfield Reports:



Elsewhere at the convention, those from all angles of the medical cannabis world are touting their wares, including the folks at HTG Supply who've been helping farmer with plants for a long time. Now, they're finding new life in marijuana growth

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Medical Marijuana Conference Brings People From All Over The World To Pittsburgh

APR 21 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: 2.57M

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: 5.12K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: 86



Medical marijuana expo points Pennsylvanians toward education, networking to build industry



Melonie Kotchey, chief operating officer and co-founder of Compassionate Certification Centers, along with Dr. Bryan Doner, CEO and medical director, hosted the first ever World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh Friday and Saturday. Eric Devlin — Digital First Media

By Eric Devlin, edevlin@21st-centurymedia.com, @Eric_Devlin on Twitter

POSTED: 04/21/17, 8:30 PM EDT | UPDATED: ON 04/21/2017 0 COMMENTS

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Among those in attendance included former Eagles offensive guard Todd Herremans and Lindie Snider, a medical marijuana financial investor and daughter of the late Ed Snider, the owner of the Flyers and former chairman of Comcast Spectacor.

The event was presented by Compassionate Certification Centers, which according to its website, connects healthcare providers with the resources and guidance to serve qualified patients looking for medical marijuana recommendations and prescriptions. The event was co-hosted by Greenhouse Ventures, whose mission is to assist in building a successful and sustainable cannabis industry by accelerating the growth of startups that service the industry, its website states.



Former professional athletes Eben Britton and Nate Jackson sat next to Lindie Snider, a medical marijuana financial investor and daughter of the late Ed Snider, the owner of the Flyers and former chairman of Comcast Spectacor, during a panel discussion at the World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh Friday. Eric Devlin — Digital First Media

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Medical marijuana expo points Pennsylvanians toward education, networking to build industry

APR 21 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: 316K

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: 1.73K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: 61

Medical marijuana expo points Pennsylvanians toward education, networking to build industry



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By Eric Devlin, edevlin@21st-centurymedia.com, @Eric_Devlin on Twitter

POSTED: 04/21/17, 8:31 PM EDT | UPDATED: ON 04/21/2017 0 COMMENTS

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Medical marijuana expo points Pennsylvanians toward education, networking to build industry

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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: 486K

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: 2.39K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: 65

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Business — Cannabis Coverage

Pittsburgh to host big medical marijuana conference

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KEITH SRAKOCIC / ASSOCIATED PRESS

FILE: Buildings making up the downtown Pittsburgh skyline were all lit up as part of the city's annual light-up-night festivities.

by Steve Twedt, PITTSBURGH POST GAZETTE

Monday marks one year since Gov. Wolf signed Pennsylvania's medical marijuana program into law and a state-wide fully operational medical marijuana program may be yet another year away.

But the sponsors for next weekend's [World Medical Marijuana Conference and Expo](#) say the time to prepare is now.

"This conference is for anybody interested in medical cannabis. They could be an investor, someone interested in a new career, a provider or a patient," said [Melonie Kotchey](#), chief operating officer and co-founder of Compassionate Certification Centers along with Armstrong County physician Bryan Doner.

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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **8.97M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **16.6K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **87**

36

For the first time ever, the East Coast will be getting a piece of the 4/20 action, having legalized cannabis for adult use in Maine and Massachusetts during the last election.

Between those two states, plus a few other states legalizing MMJ along the Eastern Seaboard, things are finally looking up for the East Coast!

April 21-22: World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo (Pittsburgh, PA)

The [World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo](#) is an exclusive event featuring the leading medical marijuana educators, businesses, and professionals from around the globe. This event will be held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from April 21 to April 22. For those who purchase VIP tickets, you will be privy to red carpet treatment, a meet-and-greet with former-NFL-player-turned-cannabis-activist Ricky Williams.

The convention will be filled with panels, seminars, discussions, networking events, and business opportunities for those who are curious about the medical cannabis market.

Leafly

APR 12 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **16.6M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **74.7K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **68**



48



11



Yahoo Finance: Former NHL Athlete Darren McCarty Attends WMCC Expo

APR 11 2017

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **174M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **31.5K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **99**


6

Kallen Diggs, Contributor
International Bestselling Author, Radio Show Host, Business Consultant

The Limitless Potential of This Green Plant Saving the World

04/10/2017 09:50 am ET | Updated Apr 10, 2017



Pixabay

This year, medical marijuana is legal in more than half of the United States. Missouri, Texas, and North Carolina are some of the next few states to legalize medical marijuana.

Modern research has proven that it is helpful for [relieving symptoms in a variety of diseases](#), including glaucoma, cancer, and multiple sclerosis. Despite its medicinal benefits, the DEA still classifies it as a Schedule 1 drug, which defines it as an unacceptable substance with a high potential for abuse.

As a Schedule 1 drug, doctors can only write recommendations on the behalf of their patients. Is marijuana really a drug though? In our modern era, many people know marijuana as a medicinal plant. Some people are using the word "cannabis" more in their everyday language to separate the plant from the stigma surrounded by the word, marijuana. Pick your preferred word. Either is fine by me.

My focus is its potential to help many more people, including myself. I did not smoke the substance until college. I did not have time for it in high school because I was so busy with studying and working a near full-time schedule.

Since my first encounter with it in college, I have developed great respect for the substance. Twelve years later, scientific research has suggested that its medicinal use can reduce the symptoms of several inflammatory diseases. Perhaps, there is also hope for me as I suffer from Hashimoto's Thyroiditis (an inflammatory disease of the thyroid).

On April 21st and 22nd, Melonie Kotchey (Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of Compassionate Certification Centers) and her team will host the World Medical Cannabis Conference in Pittsburgh. Recently, I spent a few minutes to talk with her.

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FREEWAY RocNation's Philadelphia Freeway to Speak at World Medical Marijuana Conference & Expo -

ROCNATION'S PHILADELPHIA FREEWAY TO SPEAK AT WORLD MEDICAL MARIJUANA CONFERENCE & EXPO - APRIL 21-22, IN PITTSBURGH

Ceez TwoOneFive 12:02 AM

Philadelphia's Medical Cannabis Scene heads to Pittsburgh for 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference

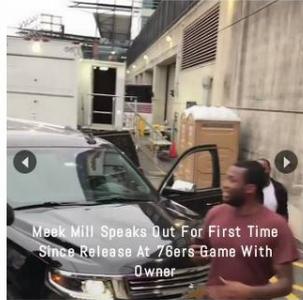


Greenhouse Ventures - a Philadelphia based innovation accelerator for ancillary startups in the cannabis and industrial hemp industries - will travel to Pittsburgh, PA for the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo with several Philly based cannabis industry influencers.

Greenhouse Ventures, along with Compassionate Certification Centers, is co-hosting the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo, the first physician-led medical cannabis conference. This conference will discuss market opportunities at the intersection where medical cannabis meets business innovation.

Leslie Edward Pridgin, better known as Roc Nation's own Philadelphia Freeway. He will head to Pittsburgh with Greenhouse Ventures to participate on several different panel discussions. In September 2015, Freeway was diagnosed with end stage renal failure and underwent emergency surgery and now on the list for a kidney transplant. Since then he has become one of the biggest advocates, and fundraisers, for kidney disease for The National Kidney Foundation. He participated in the 2015 Philadelphia and New York City Kidney Walk and hosted and performed his Freeway And Friends Benefit concert, which a portion of the profits were donated to the National Kidney Foundation to bring more awareness to kidney disease. "I'm getting involved with The 2017 Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburgh to share my story on how cannabis has helped with me kidney disease, as well as become more informed," said Freeway. "Studies have shown the long-term use of cannabis to be safe. In contrast to many other medicinal drugs, the long-term use of cannabis does not harm stomach, liver, kidneys and heart."

Lindy Snider, daughter of late Comcast Spectator chairman Ed Snider, and a Lead Advisor for Greenhouse Ventures will be one of the 25 speakers participating in the April 21-22 Philadelphia-based event.



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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:

769

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:

116

DOMAIN AUTHORITY:

32



Are extreme athletes the best test case for medical cannabis?

Already in use by some mainstream athletes for pain and performance, perhaps it's time action sports joined the game.

April 07, 2017 | By Julie Kailus



Professional and retired mainstream athletes are already using forms of cannabis and cannabidiol (CBD) for acute and long-term pain management. So are extreme athletes, who are known to have high rates of impact injuries, ready for some alternative medicine too?

According to a recent study in the Orthopaedic Journal of Sports Medicine, the four extreme sports with the highest incidences of head and neck injuries are skateboarding, snowboarding, skiing and motocross. The study also showed that snowboarders face the highest risk of concussion, with a risk per hour of riding that's triple that of skiers.



Cannabis is being considered as a pain-management tool for extreme sports with a high rate of head and neck injuries. Photo: Mattias Olsson/Unsplash

Ex-NFL player Marvin Washington, who vapes and takes CBD tinctures as an anti-inflammatory, thinks it's time for all athletes to step up and consider medical marijuana's promising purposes, one of which might even help halt the opiate epidemic in America.

"There should be an athlete cannabis movement, as there is strength in numbers. Enough numbers and we will be able to change policy and make the four major leagues look at the whole cannabis plant as an alternative to opiates," he told GrindTV in a statement.

"Concussions and opiates are the two biggest issues the NFL is facing concerning players' health, and cannabis can help both."

RELATED: Controversial cyclist Floyd Landis starts weed company in Colorado

We're not talking about smoking pot here, Dr. Bryan Doner, co-founder of Compassionate Certification Centers, told GrindTV. He's hosting the upcoming World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo in Pittsburgh to talk about marijuana's various

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(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:	9.5K
DOMAIN AUTHORITY:	49

Philadelphia's Medical Cannabis Scene Heads to Pittsburgh for 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference

Medical Marijuana Meets Business Innovation at the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo, April 21-22, in Pittsburgh

(PRWEB) APRIL 07, 2017

Greenhouse Ventures – a Philadelphia based innovation accelerator for ancillary startups in the cannabis and industrial hemp industries - will travel to Pittsburgh, PA for the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo with several Philly based cannabis industry influencers.

Greenhouse Ventures, along with Compassionate Certification Centers, is co-hosting the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo, the first physician-led medical cannabis conference. This conference will discuss market opportunities at the intersection where medical cannabis meets business innovation.

Leslie Edward Pridgin, better known as RocNation's own Philadelphia Freeway. He will head to Pittsburgh with Greenhouse Ventures to participate on several different panel discussions. In September 2015 Freeway was diagnosed with end stage renal failure and underwent emergency surgery and now on the list for a kidney transplant. Since then he has become one of the biggest advocates, and fundraisers, for kidney disease for The National Kidney Foundation. He participated in the 2015 Philadelphia and New York City Kidney Walk and hosted and performed his Freeway And Friends Benefit concert, which a portion of the profits were donated to the National Kidney Foundation to bring more awareness to kidney disease. "I'm getting involved with The 2017 Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo in Pittsburg to share my story on how cannabis has helped with me kidney disease, as well as become more informed," said Freeway. "Studies have shown the long-term use of cannabis to be safe. In contrast to many other medicinal drugs, the long-term use of cannabis does not harm stomach, liver, kidneys and heart."

Lindy Snider, daughter of late Comcast Spectator chairman Ed Snider, and a lead Advisor for Greenhouse Ventures, will be one of the 75+ speakers participating in April. Lindy will join three other active investors in the industry to discuss how the cannabis investment landscape has evolved. "The Northeast U.S. medical cannabis market has multiple new states coming online in the near-term, and events like the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo are critical for professionals seeking entrance into states like Pennsylvania, which operate much differently than most of the west coast states," says Lindy Snider. "I'm particularly excited because of the mix of professional athletes, physicians, universities, and ancillary businesses who are all gathering in support of medical innovation in the cannabis industry."

"The Lambert Center for the Study of Medicinal Cannabis and Hemp at Thomas Jefferson University is proud to support and participate in the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference," said Charles V. Pollack, Jr., MD, Director of the Center. "The Lambert Center is the only comprehensive academic resource for education, research, and practice for the therapeutic use of cannabinoids to be based in a US health sciences university. We view the Expo as an opportunity to identify new partners in advancing the science underlying this exciting field." Following the announcement this past summer of The Lambert Center for the Study of Medicinal Cannabis and Hemp at Thomas Jefferson University, and the \$3 million dollar donation it received from Billy Lambert for research in medical cannabis, Dr. Pollack will lead a main stage discussion on The Intersection of Cannabis Education, Research, and Commercialization.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to openly discuss how cannabis has helped me personally, both in my everyday life, as well as throughout the course of my career in the NFL. I look forward to sharing my story with the hopes that it could possibly help others to better understand the cannabis plant and its many uses," stated former Philadelphia Eagles player Todd Herremans. Todd will be one of several former professional athletes at the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo representing Athletes for Care – a nonprofit foundation founded by professional athletes to raise awareness for important issues facing both professional athletes and the public at large.

"Philadelphia has the potential to be the medical cannabis capital of the country," Greenhouse Ventures CEO, Kevin Provost, boldly states. "Philadelphia has a rich history in medical and education innovation backed by a core group of venture-development organizations, angel investors, and research institutions that are transferring their core competencies to the cannabis industry, which is positioning Pennsylvania as a leader in the US medical cannabis market."

The 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo begins on Friday, April 21st, with an afternoon of cannabis industry training sessions followed by a VIP cocktail party, live entertainment, and a meet and greet with former NFL star, Ricky Williams. Saturday will include a full day of medical cannabis education, professional training workshops, business pitches, and 100 leading cannabis companies exhibiting in the main conference hall. Physicians and Health Care Providers can also purchase tickets to attend a three-hour Medical Cannabis Course and access to TheAnswerPage.com's medical cannabis CME on-line library for an entire year with option to earn up to 22.5 CME credits.

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Contact Author

NEKO CATANZARO

Proven Media
+1 4014844980
Email >

MELONIE KOTCHEY

Compassionate Certification Centers
724-244-7111
Email >

VISIT WEBSITE

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Leslie Edward Pridgin,
RocNation's own
Philadelphia Freeway.



Lindy Snider, Founder
and CEO of Lindi Skin,
the first full line of
botanically based skin
care products for cancer
patients.



Todd Herremans,
Athletes For CARE
ambassador, Former
NFL offensive guard



Director, Associate Dean &
Professor at Thomas
Jefferson University

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **1.7M**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **2.91K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **88**



14



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World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo- It's all about the medicin!

Von: Manuel Spindler in Cannabis-Konferenzen 7. April 2017 1,021 Views



13 Facebook 0 Twitter 0 Google+ 0 Pinterest Total: 13

In Amerika gibt es zahlreiche Cannabismessen und Kongresse, bei denen über die Vorteile von Cannabis sowohl in der Medizin als auch zum Freizeitgebrauch geredet wird. Diese Messen zählen zu den wichtigsten treibenden Kräften in der Cannabisszene und sind Jahr für Jahr ausverkauft, was dazu beiträgt, dass das Thema Cannabis immer öfter von den Medien aufgegriffen wird und dadurch immer mehr und mehr Leute ein positives Bild von Hanf haben.

Eine dieser „Exhibitions“ (zu Deutsch Ausstellungen) findet dieses Jahr in Pittsburgh, der Hauptstadt des Bundesstaates Pennsylvania statt. Auf der „World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo“, welche vom 21.-22. April 2017 im David L. Lawrence Convention Center stattfindet, dreht sich auch dieses Jahr wieder alles um medizinisches Cannabis mit all seinen Einsatzbereichen. Geplant ist eine Veranstaltung, bei der Experten aus der Branche wie etwa Geschäftsinhaber, Spezialisten und Pädagogen aus aller Welt auftreten und Vorträge zum Thema Cannabis in der Medizin halten.

Seminare, Produktpräsentationen, Investoren und vieles mehr

Auf der Expo wird es neben den genannten Vorträgen rund ums Thema Cannabis auch eine Konferenz für medizinische Pädagogen, Seminare und ein Diskussionsforum geben, bei dem unter Gleichgesinnten ausgiebig über die Vorteile, Hindernisse und Möglichkeiten der Cannabissindustrie debattiert werden kann. Außerdem wird es die Möglichkeit geben, mit Investoren zusammenzukommen und sich mit diesen über eine mögliche Finanzierung eines Cannabisunternehmens auszutauschen. Des Weiteren werden Vertreter namhafter Cannabisunternehmen vor Ort sein, um ihre Produkte auszustellen und natürlich mit interessierten Personen über die Industrie und über das Führen eines Unternehmens zu reden. Weiters werden auch Anwälte und Vertreter der Regierung anwesend sein, um etwaige Fragen zum Thema zu beantworten und Ratschläge für eine legale Ausübung der Geschäfte mit medizinischem Cannabis zu geben. Niemand will schließlich für etwas ins Gefängnis müssen, was auf einen Formfehler zurückzuführen ist.

Wer also etwas über das legale Geschäft mit medizinischem Cannabis in Amerika erfahren möchte, der sollte sich die Gelegenheit beim Schopf packen und vom 21.-22. April 2017 nach Pittsburgh, PA fliegen, um sich aus erster Hand Informationen rund um dieses Thema zu erhalten und sich mit Experten auszutauschen.



(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:	238K
(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:	22.7K
DOMAIN AUTHORITY:	39

VALLEY NEWS DISPATCH

Vandergrift store, Nature's Best CBD, to offer cannabis-based health care line



EMILY BALSER | Thursday, April 6, 2017, 7:33 p.m.



LOUIS B. RUEDIGER | TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Amy Bufalini, owner of Natures Best CBD in Vandergrift, shows a bottle of cannabis oil that will be sold in her store, Tuesday, April 4, 2017.

Amy Bufalini is launching a business in Vandergrift that will sell medicinal products derived from the cannabis plant — but she doesn't need a medical marijuana license.

That's because the oils and creams sold in the store contain only a minuscule amount of tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the chemical in marijuana that causes people to get high.

The store, which is set to open Sunday, comes as Pennsylvania reviews permits for medical marijuana dispensaries after last year becoming one of more than two dozen states to legalize the drug to treat specific ailments.

Bufalini doesn't need a license because her store, the first Pennsylvania franchise of Colorado-based Nature's Best CBD, isn't considered a medical marijuana business.



TRENDING LOCAL



Stormy Daniels appearance at Blush stirs things up in Pittsburgh



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'End of an era': Time, inventory running out for NECCO, Clark Bar

4-QUESTION TRIB POLL

Did you find the end of "Avengers: Infinity War" shocking?

- Yes
No
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4.45M

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:

10.7K

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83



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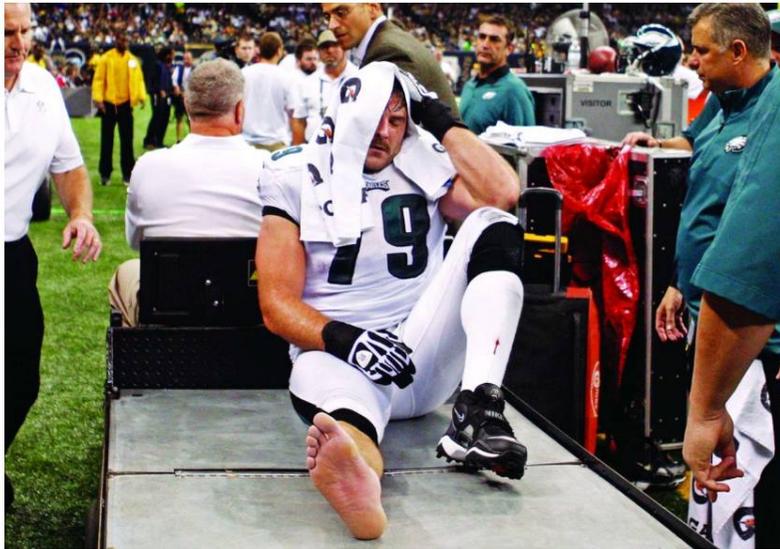
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Business — Cannabis Coverage

Q&A with ex-Eagle Herremans: Medical pot could be a 'win-win' for NFL

Updated: APRIL 4, 2017 — 3:01 AM EDT

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RON CORTES / FILE PHOTOGRAPH

Todd Herremans, an offensive lineman for the Eagles from 2005 to 2014, wants teams to consider medical marijuana as a replacement for prescription painkillers and the NFL to take a less punitive approach to players using marijuana.



by **Sam Wood**, STAFF WRITER | [@samwoodiii](#) | [samwood@phillynews.com](#)

Todd Herremans, offensive lineman for the Eagles from 2005 to 2014, has repositioned himself as an outspoken advocate for medical marijuana. Scheduled to be a panelist at the [World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo](#) on April 21 and 22 in Pittsburgh, Herremans spoke with the Inquirer recently about the [NFL and cannabis](#).

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(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **16.6K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **87**



44

Professional Athletes Headline Progressive Discussion on "Sports and Cannabis" at 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo

Professional sports ambassadors from Athletes For CARE, a national not-for-profit organization launching later this spring, will headline a "Sports and Cannabis" panel at the inaugural 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo, April 21-22, 2017, in Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA (PRWEB) MARCH 15, 2017

Professional sports ambassadors from Athletes For CARE, a national not-for-profit organization launching later this spring, will headline a "Sports and Cannabis" panel at the inaugural 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference & Expo (WMCCExpo), April 21-22, 2017, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, 1000 Fort Duquesne Boulevard, in Pittsburgh.

Former National Football League (NFL) players Marvin Washington, Nate Jackson, Eben Britton, and Todd Herremans will lead a comprehensive discussion on medical cannabis in professional sports on Friday, April 21, from 2-3 p.m.

Hosted by Compassionate Certification Centers™ (CCC) and Greenhouse Ventures LLC, medical cannabis meets business innovation at the national physician-led conference.

The WMCCExpo will feature educational seminars, professional training workshops, networking opportunities, and dynamic panels on the industry's most compelling issues.

For tickets or information, call 1-888-316-9085 or visit <http://www.cccregister.com>.

Founded by pro athletes, Athletes For CARE is dedicated to raising awareness for important issues facing both professional athletes and the public at large. The newly formed organization advocates for research, education and compassion when addressing these challenges.

"I look forward to attending the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference and Expo as a representative of Athletes for CARE. Events like the WMCCExpo provide a much-needed platform for us to address the many health concerns facing former professional athletes and engage in honest dialogue about holistic and non-toxic solutions," said Nate Jackson, former NFL player for the Denver Broncos and San Francisco 49ers.

In addition to the "Sports and Cannabis" panel, the WMCCExpo will feature presentations on the potential medical benefits of cannabinoids with experts in the field of science and medicine.

"Many athletes or ex athletes already benefit from Medical Cannabis in its use for treating chronic pain and its symptoms. The use of Medical Cannabis may likely also expand into other areas that directly affect athletes, including concussions and psychiatric disorders such as PTSD, anxiety, or depression," stated Dr. Bryan Doner co-founder of Compassionate Certification Centers.

Concussions and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) are associated with Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), a dreaded condition of the brain caused by repeated head trauma.

In a recent study conducted by Boston University, CTE was identified in 96% of NFL players and 79% of all football players examined. The topic has made national sports headlines and continues to raise questions about the future of the American sport.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to openly discuss how cannabis has helped me personally, both in my everyday life, as well as throughout the course of my career in the NFL. I look forward to sharing my story with the hopes that it could possibly help others to better understand the cannabis plant and its many uses," stated former Philadelphia Eagles player Todd Herremans

The WMCCExpo will feature former professional athletes and renowned doctors including:

- Eben Britton, Athletes For CARE ambassador, Former NFL offensive linesman
- Todd Herremans, Athletes For CARE ambassador, Former NFL offensive guard
- Nate Jackson, Athletes For CARE ambassador, Former NFL player and published author of "Slow Getting Up: A Story of - NFL Survival from the Bottom of the Pile" and "Fantasy Man"
- Marvin Washington, Athletes For CARE ambassador, NFL Super Bowl Winner & Cannabis Advocate
- Dr. Cyril Wecht, Forensic Science Consultant who was portrayed by Albert Brooks in the critically acclaimed movie "Concussion".

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Contact Author

NEKO CATANZARO

Proven Media
+1 4014844980
Email >

MELONIE KOTCHEY

Compassionate Certification Centers
724-244-7111
Email >

VISIT WEBSITE

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Athletes For CARE ambassador and former NFL offensive linesman Eben Britton.



Athletes For CARE ambassador, Former NFL offensive guard Todd Herremans.



Athletes For CARE ambassador and NFL Super Bowl Winner & Cannabis Advocate Marvin Washington.



Athletes For CARE ambassador and former NFL player, Nate Jackson is also a published author of "Slow Getting Up: A Story of NFL Survival from the Bottom of the Pile" and "Fantasy Man".



Heisman Trophy Winner and former NFL player Ricky Williams.



Forensic Science Consultant Dr Cyril Wecht, who was portrayed by Albert Brooks in the critically acclaimed movie "Concussion".

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:

1.7M

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:

2.91K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY:

88



6



Medical Jane > Medical Marijuana > United States > Pennsylvania

Medical Marijuana Conference to Offer Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits

by **Nanette Porter**
on March 08, 2017

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The **World Medical Cannabis Business Conference & Expo (WMCCExpo)**, hosted by Compassionate Certification Centers (CCC), will be held Apr 21-22, 2017, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

In a [press release](#) by CCC, they say the motivation behind this conference is "to establish a more inclusive and progressive healthcare dialogue by incorporating medical marijuana resources and patient care into mainstream medicine."

The program has been devised to apply to several states, and invites healthcare professionals to gain a comprehensive introduction to medical cannabis, all the while earning up to 22.5 CME credits and several other benefits.

"This conference is applicable to anyone who is involved in patient care. It was designed by physicians for healthcare professionals to educate all providers," said Dr. Bryan Doner, CEO and co-founder.

The WMCCExpo is the first large-scale MMJ conference led by physicians for the healthcare profession. There will be numerous opportunities to network with leading marijuana educators, industry leaders, business professionals and patients from all over the world.

In addition to the educational seminars, workshops and panel discussions, there will be a 170+ booth vendor display, live entertainment, a cocktail mixer, and a chance to meet with former NFL star Ricky Williams.

Tickets start at \$399 and can be [purchased online](#). Attendance is expected to near 8,000, but only time will tell.

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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **588K**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **23K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **46**

6 1



Home > Entrepreneurship > Cannabis and International Women's Day

Cannabis and International Women's Day

By Adelia Carrillo - March 7, 2017

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International Women's Day (IWD), originally called International Working Women's Day, is celebrated on March 8 every year. Throughout the world, celebrations range from the general celebration of respect, appreciation, and love towards women for their economic, political and social achievements.

The earliest celebration held was as a Socialist political event in 1909 in New York City. Declared a national holiday in the Soviet Union in 1917, it spread to other nearby countries. Today it is celebrated in many Eastern countries.

In some regions, the day lost its political flavor and became simply an occasion for people to express their love for women in a way somewhat similar to a mixture of Mother's Day and Valentine's Day. In other regions, however, the political and human rights theme designated by the United Nations runs strong as political and social awareness of the struggles of women worldwide is brought out and examined in a hopeful manner. Some people celebrate the day by wearing purple ribbons.

Female Entrepreneurs in the Cannabis Industry

When you look at the cannabis industry, you will notice women entrepreneurs are making a tremendous impact and helping pave the way as we move towards becoming a larger industry.

Women account for 36% of all executives in the cannabis market.

According to [Marijuana Business Daily](#), women account for 36% of all executives in the cannabis market. This exceeds the 22% national average for women in executive roles across all industries, according to Pew Research Center.



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Hunter Wilson - May 1, 2018

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InnDica: This is a place where the best of both worlds meet
InnDica: A place for the lodging and entertainment of cannabis aficionados in search of a public house & food

Entrepreneurship
Entrepreneur of the Week: Monique Jackson-Fitzgerald and Rick Fitzgerald of InnDica
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Direct Cannabis Network is the leading digital news network covering startups, entrepreneurs and innovation in the legal cannabis industry.
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(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS:	7.34K
(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:	1.41K
DOMAIN AUTHORITY:	27



Haleigh's hope

By Adam Kincaid / For the AJC



Janea Cox talks with daughter Haleigh, 7, as they visit their home under construction in Forsyth. The Coxes are temporarily living at a relative's home while they rebuild their own home, which burned down in July 2015.

Posted: 3:39 p.m. Thursday, March 02, 2017

Janea Cox, her husband Brian, their 7-year-old daughter Haleigh and their chocolate Lab Kala left their Forsyth home in December 2016 for their semi-annual trip to Colorado. They flew into Denver and made their way toward Colorado Springs in a rental car, squeezing the three of them, a wheelchair and the dog into the small, four-door sedan. A handicap-equipped van would have been better, but the economy ride was what they could afford.

The family checked into a budget hotel and went to sleep; not that they ever sleep well, or for very long. Young Haleigh was up through the night, as usual. She has epilepsy so severe she requires constant oversight. For most of her life, her young brain hasn't been seizure-free long enough to develop normally. So she gets around in a wheelchair, receives nourishment through a feeding tube and is barely able to communicate. Haleigh is a prisoner in her own body.

She also has type one diabetes. Kala is a service dog specially trained to check blood sugar levels by smell and alert handlers of spikes — to do what Haleigh cannot do for herself, to speak out when she needs help.

These family trips are not fun. They stretch the Coxes to their financial limit. And they take everything Janea and Brian have just to get to the offices of the Flowering Hope Foundation, where botanist Jason Cranford dispenses his specially formulated cannabis oil. Haleigh's Hope, named after his special client. Janea believes it is the only thing that has kept her daughter alive.

The cannabis oil isn't the only thing named after Janea and Brian's daughter. Her name also appears on the law, Haleigh's Hope Act, enacted in 2015, which

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(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **11.5K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **74**



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ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Interview: Dr. Bryan Doner, CEO Medical Director and Co-Founder of Compassionate Certification Centers

By Adam Bohannon - February 21, 2017

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In this interview, we sat down with Dr. Bryan Doner. Dr. Bryan Doner is the CEO Medical Director and Co-Founder of Compassionate Certification Centers™, a medical marijuana marketing and consulting company based in Pittsburgh. He received his undergraduate education at Denison University and completed a graduate program in Medical Sciences at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. After which he returned to Pennsylvania, where he was raised, to complete his medical education at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, and then residency training in Emergency Medicine at Saint Vincent Health System in Erie. He also has completed his fellowship training in Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine. In addition to practicing clinically, he is also heavily involved in clinical research.

DCN: First, thank you for sharing us today. I know I gave a pretty lengthy intro, can you please in any gaps and tell us a little bit more about yourself, your career, and your interest/current research with medical marijuana?

Dr. Bryan Doner: Thank you for having me. Thank you for the great introduction. I also serve as a member of the American Academy of Cannabinoid Medicine, American's for Safe Access, and the Society of Cannabis Clinicians. I currently practice clinically in multiple states and have active medical licenses in Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York. I am also certified to attest for medical marijuana in New York, and will soon be able to in Pennsylvania and Ohio. Since the industry's inception, I have attended numerous symposiums and educational events regarding medical marijuana and research. oftentimes serving as a speaker or panel member. As an



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Pennsylvania's Medical Cannabis Program

Written by Rich Copeland - Producer, WITF's Smart Talk | Feb 14, 2017 8:00 PM

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witf Smart Talk 2/15/17: Pennsylvania's Medical Cannabis Program

On WITF's Smart Talk - Wednesday, February 15th 2017:

In April of last year, Governor Wolf signed into law [Pennsylvania's medical cannabis legislation](#).

Pennsylvanians suffering from numerous illnesses including cancer, HIV/AIDS, epilepsy, and Parkinson's Disease are qualified to obtain medical marijuana in the form of pills, oils and creams - but not in plant form.

A patient must be certified by a physician and issued a patient ID card. Government assistance and private health insurers are not required to reimburse patients for medical marijuana costs.

Last month, the Pennsylvania Health Department released applications for growers and dispensers. Permit approvals will be announced this June.



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After years of stubborn deficits, Pa.'s budget process looks easier:

But, IFO Director Matthew Knittel offer a note of caution.

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DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **64**



24



Greenhouse Ventures Partners with Compassionate Certification Centers™ To Co-Host Pennsylvania's Largest Medical Cannabis Conference

Home / News Event

/ Greenhouse Ventures Partners with Compassionate...



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PHILADELPHIA (February 1, 2017) — [Compassionate Certification Centers™](#) (CCC) – the first and only company in the United States that provides medical marijuana services to healthcare providers, MDs, Dos, and mid-level practitioners – have announced a strategic partnership with Greenhouse Ventures LLC – an innovation accelerator specific for startups and small businesses in the cannabis and industrial hemp industries –to co-host the 2017 World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo.

The [2017 World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo](#) will take place April 21 and 22, 2017, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA. For tickets or information, call [1-888-316-9085](tel:1-888-316-9085) or visit www.compassionatecertificationcenters.com.

The conference begins on Friday, April 21, with an afternoon of cannabis industry training sessions followed by a VIP cocktail party, live entertainment, and a meet and greet with former NFL stars, Ricky Williams and Marvin Washington. Saturday will include a full day of medical cannabis education, professional training workshops, business pitches, and over 100 leading cannabis companies exhibiting in the main conference hall. Physicians and Healthcare Providers can also earn 22.5 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credits™ by attending the expo and medical cannabis education seminar on Saturday morning.

The 2017 World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo will take place a month after the application window is set to close for applicants seeking one of Pennsylvania's coveted dispensary or grower/processor licenses and nearly 100 days into the Trump presidency.

"We look forward to launching our inaugural conference with Greenhouse Ventures and drawing national industry leaders to the mid-Atlantic. Our two Pennsylvania-based cannabis companies are dedicated to furthering cannabis education for individuals, doctors, and patients," stated Melonie Kotchey, COO and co-founder of Compassionate Certification Centers.

Prior to this conference Greenhouse Ventures hosted the sold out [Innovation in the Cannabis Industry: Technology, Medical & Investment](#) and [Innovation in the Cannabis Industry: Future Outlook](#) events in center city Philadelphia, the latter of which, Compassionate Certification Centers was a sponsor of.

"The opportunity to partner with Compassionate Certification Centers on the 2017 World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo is ideal because both of our organizations are focused on education as a primary initiative," said Greenhouse Ventures Co-Founder, Tyler Dautrich.

"This is the first conference designed to bring together medical professionals and patients entering the industry with the most innovative researchers, business, and

The Cannabis Reporter

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(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **5.07K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **20**



Why Medical Marijuana is Critical to the Evolution of the Cannabis Industry

January 24, 2017 at 11:00 pm
Published by NCV Newswire



Guest post by Dr. Bryan Doner, Co-Founder of [Compassionate Certification Centers](#)

More than half of the adult population in the U.S. now has access to legal cannabis, and it is estimated that more than 500,000 patients may potentially benefit from medical marijuana treatments. The integration of medical cannabis into our healthcare system is a tremendous accomplishment, especially considering this was initiated by a patient centered movement.

Though the recreational market garners a lot of the spotlight, the medical side of the industry has been a critical component of the entire industry's evolution, and will continue to do so in the future. Recent research from New Frontier has projected that the U.S. medical marijuana market will reach \$11 billion in 2020. Further estimates reveal that states like Ohio, Michigan, and Pennsylvania, are going to be key players in the industry.

Florida's market alone is expected to reach \$1.6 billion by 2020, making it half the size of California's projected \$2.6 billion market and above Colorado's projected \$1.5 billion medical marijuana market. From a research and clinical integration standpoint, we have only scratched the surface of medical cannabis as an entity. It very well may be one of the most important developments in the history of modern medicine, and time will tell. Its importance to the acceptance, integration and expansion of the cannabis industry cannot be underestimated.

These numbers are astounding and yet what is even more astounding is the lack of resources available to healthcare providers, who are a critical cog in the wheel. Medical marijuana is applicable to anyone who is involved in patient care, yet until recently, resources have been difficult to find and only initiated on a small scale. As a physician and medical marijuana advocate, I have noticed that despite the overwhelming amount of directories and educational platforms for patients, there is a surprisingly small amount of resources for those on the other end of the spectrum - physicians, nurses, clinicians, etc.

For the legal cannabis industry to progress and move forward we need to educate providers and work towards integrating medical marijuana into mainstream medicine. Now that 28 states have passed legalization measures, it is imperative that all physicians and providers have a baseline understanding of the endocannabinoid system and medical marijuana. Not only of the science, but also how the system in our country works, which differs state-by-state and is far from traditional. They also, like patients, need to be provided with the

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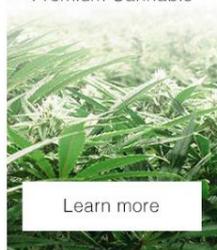
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Shifting a Paradigm: Is Cannabis Study Worthy of Academia?

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About This Episode

With ample scientific proof that medical marijuana is not just a viable medical treatment, but also necessary for maintaining optimal health, it's astonishing that so many higher education institutions have yet to recognize the legitimacy or value of cannabis study. More than 30 years ago, scientists discovered that cannabis unlocks the functionality of a vital internal system known as the endo-cannabinoid system, which governs immune and neurological responses in the human body. Since then, only a handful of medical schools have added courses on the endo-cannabinoid system in their doctoral syllabus. Fewer still have yet to sanction or allocate funding or resources for cannabis study and academic research at their institutions.

Ironically, federal law remains one of the biggest barriers deterring academic research, but federal law won't change until more cannabis study is conducted in academic and clinical settings. Federal law also bars physicians from "prescribing" medical marijuana, which could explain why doctors seldom advocate for marijuana or go out of their way to learn more about it. Greater acceptance in the academic world is more likely if medical professionals take the lead. Their advocacy could help remove the negative stigma associated with marijuana, which is another deterrent keeping universities from pushing for permits to conduct clinical



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By **ACCESSWIRE**

January 19, 2017 at 10:00 AM EST

World Medical Marijuana Business Conference and Expo April 21 - 22 in Pittsburgh Offers Healthcare Providers CME Credits(TM)

The Physician-Led Conference Presented by Compassionate Certification Centers™ Grants Attendees a 12-month Subscription to TheAnswerPage.com and Up to 22.5 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credits™

PITTSBURGH, PA / ACCESSWIRE / January 19, 2017 / The **World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo** (WMMBCExpo) invites healthcare providers to gain a comprehensive introduction to medical marijuana and earn up to 22.5 continuing medical education (CME) credits.

Attendees will receive a 12-month subscription to TheAnswerPage.com, a user-friendly online database, and the potential to earn 22.5 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credits™, including risk management.

Presented by **Compassionate Certification Centers™** (CCC), the physician-led conference will take place Friday and Saturday, April 21-22, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, 1000 Fort Duquesne Boulevard, in Pittsburgh.

Tickets for the **Medical Marijuana CME Course** start at \$399 and include an all-day Saturday conference pass, three-hour educational seminar, and TheAnswerPage.com subscription.

To purchase tickets or for more information, call 1-888-316-9085, or visit compassionatecertificationcenters.com.

The management team behind the conference aims to establish a more inclusive and progressive healthcare dialogue by incorporating medical marijuana resources and patient care into mainstream medicine.

"This conference is applicable to anyone who is involved in patient care. It was designed by physicians for healthcare professionals to educate all providers," said Dr. Bryan Doner, CEO and co-founder.

The CME Course begins with an "Introduction to Medical Cannabis and the Endocannabinoid System," from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Saturday, April 22.

The seminar will be led by Dr. Stephen Corn, board certified physician of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Children's Hospital in Boston, and faculty member at Harvard Medical School.

Healthcare providers will have the opportunity to network with other clinical professionals during the event and have access to the medical marijuana library at TheAnswerPage.com for a full year.

Providers have the freedom to choose CME credit™ syllabi specific to their field of interest. Topics vary from broad overviews of the endocannabinoid system to specific diseases such as, "The Medical Use of Marijuana in Huntington's Disease," and the "Medicolegal: New York State Medical Marijuana Legal Course Series."

TheAnswerPage.com is an innovative resource platform accessed in 120 countries with more than 20,000 registered users.

"We are proud to offer healthcare professionals a convenient and innovative opportunity to earn CME credits while introducing them to the medical marijuana industry," stated Melonie Kotchey, COO and co-founder.

The WMMBCExpo is the first large-scale medical marijuana conference led by physicians for the health care industry. Nearly 8,000 general attendees and 170 exhibitors are expected to attend, including industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and patients from throughout the country.

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Markets : Business : The Buffalo News	1
(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:	
JAN 19 2017	
DOMAIN AUTHORITY:	79

ALLEGHENY

Ex-NFL star Ricky Williams to headline medical marijuana conference in Pittsburgh



BEN SCHMITT | Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017, 8:18 p.m.



REUTERS

Marijuana plants for sale are displayed at the medical marijuana farmers market at the California Heritage Market in Los Angeles, Calif., on July 11, 2014. Medical marijuana proponents will converge at Pittsburgh's David L. Lawrence Convention Center for a two-day expo April 21-22, 2017.

A medical cannabis conference is headed to Pittsburgh, and it happens to be scheduled for the day after 4/20 — a well-known term for marijuana use.

Medical marijuana proponents are set to converge on the David L. Lawrence Convention Center for a two-day expo April 21-22. Organizers expect to draw up to 5,000 people.

The first World Medical Marijuana Business Conference and Expo features former NFL running back and Heisman Trophy winner Ricky Williams, a longtime marijuana advocate, as keynote speaker.

"My personal goal is to elevate the legitimacy of cannabis as a medicine and the respect of medical professionals for cannabis users," Williams told the Tribune-Review in an email Wednesday. "As a former top athlete, no one disputes that I endured injuries and serious physical pain. Medical professionals are well aware of the treatment regimen utilized by the NFL — namely opioids.

"I believe that sharing my story of using cannabis to heal from physical pain can aid the medical profession's understanding of the reason why people turn to cannabis and how its effects are different from conventional medicines."

Compassionate Certification Centers, a medical marijuana consulting and marketing company based in Pittsburgh, organized the conference. One of its cofounders, Dr. Bryan Doner, said Pittsburgh is a natural location given the ongoing implementation of a medical marijuana infrastructure throughout Pennsylvania.

About the conference

For tickets or info, call 888-316-9085 or visit www.compassionatecertificationcenters.com.

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An excel formula
An improper celebrity

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(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS:

10.7K

DOMAIN AUTHORITY:

83



85

Home > Events

What Are the Best Marijuana Events in 2017?



by **TheWeedBlog** Jan 1, 2017

Whether you are an activist, a cannabis industry professional, or a new or veteran cannabis consumer (or all of the above!) attending cannabis centric events will help with furthering this movement and with education and awareness about the cannabis plant itself.

BY **LEAH MAURER**

What are the best cannabis events to attend in 2017?

It is certainly an interesting time in history for marijuana...regardless of how people feel about it.

Here are a few must-attend events for the new year. We will definitely update this list as more cannabis events surface. We hope you find one, or several, that are a good fit for you!

January

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NEWS

NFL might be warming to idea of studying potential medicinal benefits of marijuana



Though NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has maintained his belief in the league's drug policy, he has not come out against a study examining players' use of marijuana and its potential benefits. (Photo by Bryan Bedder/Getty Images for The New York Times)

By RYAN KARTJE | rkartje@scng.com | Orange County Register
December 12, 2016 at 2:00 pm

0 COMMENTS

In February, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell was asked during the week of Super Bowl 50 about the league's marijuana policy. Across the country, states were legalizing marijuana use in increasing numbers, and former NFL players were increasingly pushing for the league to reconsider marijuana's potential to relieve the chronic pain inherent with such a brutal game.

But, in spite of those societal changes and the pleas of former players, the commissioner maintained the party line. The league's drug policy, he said, was still in "the best interest of our players." When asked in November for an update on the league's stance, an NFL spokesperson had little to add.

Goodell did acknowledge that day that the league was aware of scientific developments in marijuana research. But for the NFL's medical experts, it wasn't enough. Until those experts change their view, "I don't expect we will change ours," he said.

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Introducing Medical Marijuana as a Medical Necessity

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About This Episode

With less than a month to go before the elections, cannabis advocates in 8 states are a-buzz with anticipation about voting on adult-use marijuana measures. While legalization would bring regular users of illicit marijuana out of the shadows – and put illegal street vendors out of business – there are far more important reasons for us to pass new marijuana laws. Diverting black market money back to our economy, creating millions of jobs in sectors that support the growing marijuana industry, saving taxpayers money on law enforcement, judicial process and incarceration of non-violent drug offenders, are just a few.

For those who are satisfied with current medical marijuana laws but only luke-warm about regulating marijuana like alcohol, improved access for patients suffering with medical conditions that don't qualify for treatment under existing state programs provides a compelling reason to get behind legalization. Medical marijuana laws are notoriously restrictive. Not all medical conditions that could be relieved using medicinal cannabis are included in qualifying illness.

But perhaps the most important reason has to do with awareness and acceptance by the medical profession. Despite the millions of individuals who now have legal

The Cannabis Reporter

OCT 13 2016

(EST.) MONTHLY VISITS: **20.5K**

(EST.) COVERAGE VIEWS: **5.07K**

DOMAIN AUTHORITY: **20**

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Home » Events » EVENTS: World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo, Pittsburgh, April 21-22, 2017

EVENTS: World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo, Pittsburgh, April 21-22, 2017

Posted on October 3, 2016 by SueVo in Events, News, Wire // 0 Comments



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Pittsburgh, PA – Compassionate Certification Centers™ is proud to announce the World Medical Marijuana Business Conference & Expo that will be held April 21 – 22, 2017 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, located at 1000 Fort Duquesne Blvd., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The one-of-a-kind medical marijuana expo addresses the question, “Medical marijuana is legal – now what?”

The WMMBCExpo is different than other marijuana conferences and is deploying resources to educate healthcare providers coast-to-coast and the American public — regardless of what state they reside in.

The organization's mission is to connect their proprietary database of more than 500,000 potential patients – who are likely eligible and seeking a physician certified in their state to recommend a medical marijuana card – and 60,000+ physicians. The database is growing approximately by 35 people per day.

“CCC is hosting this event in Pittsburgh because we believe the time to educate and expand knowledge regarding medical marijuana is now,” states Dr. Bryan Doner, DO, CEO and Medical Director & Co-Founder of Compassionate Certification Centers™. “With the new legislation, Pennsylvania became the ‘tipping point’ state, meaning that more than 51% of the U.S. population has access to some form of cannabis. The interest and need is increasing in our state at a rapid pace, and we believe the WMMBCExpo will fill this void and offer clinical providers, patients, business owners and entrepreneurs with the information they will need to move forward and navigate the waters of medical marijuana.”

Doner continues, “It is imperative that all physicians and providers have a baseline understanding of medical marijuana. As a provider – whether you support medical marijuana or not – healthcare providers have a commitment to their patients to understand this new and developing treatment option. Many patients will be asking questions pertaining to medical marijuana, and in order to provide the accurate answers they are seeking, healthcare providers must have at least a minimal knowledge base on the subject. Our aim at Compassionate Certification Centers™ and at the WMMBCExpo is to provide this knowledge base in an unbiased and interactive nature.”

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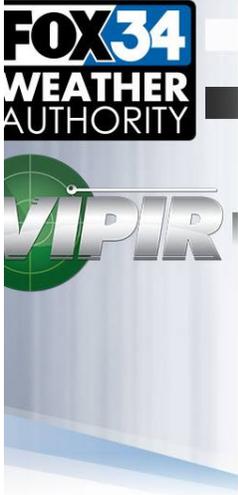
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Frankie Boyer BIZ Talk Lifestyle Radio Shows - Upcoming & Featured Guests



Frankie Boyer Lifestyle Radio Shows
Up beat, out-of-the box guests delivering new ideas, and solutions that change the world you live in.



On Air This Thursday May 3rd with Frankie LIVE at 11 AM or repeated at 9PM on www.Biztalkradio.com

11:00 Guest

Jalaja Bonheim, Ph.D., is an internationally acclaimed speaker and an award-winning author. She is founder of the Institute for Circlework and has trained hundreds of Circlework leaders from around the world, including the Middle East, where her circles unite Jewish and Palestinian women. Her new book, "*The Magic of Circlework: The Practice Women from Around the World Are Using to Heal and Empower Themselves*".

www.magicofcirclework.com.

11:17 Guest

Mark Kingston Levin out with his second book of a trilogy, "*30th Century: Escape*". In 1964 Dr Levin received a BS in chemistry from the University of Vermont. He was employed by Boeing on project Apollo and later worked on the Mars Project. In 1968, he decided to return to school to study under Nobel Laureate Paul Dirac in quantum mechanics at the University of Miami, Coral Gables; obtaining his Ph.D. in 2.5 years. 30thcentury.org

11:30 Guest

Cutter Wood was born in Central Pennsylvania and received his BA from Brown University, where he was awarded prizes for nonfiction and poetry. Wood completed an MFA in creative nonfiction at the University of Iowa in 2010, during which he was awarded numerous fellowships and had essays published in Harper's and other magazines. Cutter Wood's remarkable debut, "*LOVE AND DEATH IN THE SUNSHINE STATE: The Story of a Crime*"

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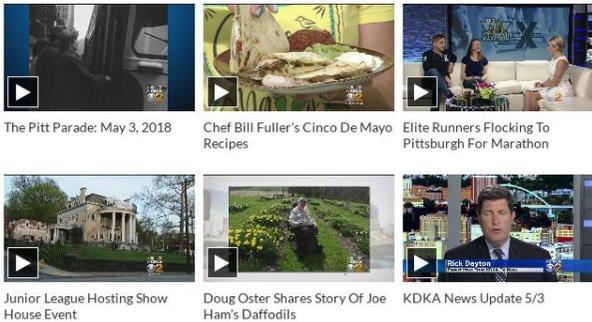
Cannabis Conference About Marriage Of Industry, Patient Need

People have come to Pittsburgh from all over the world for the 2017 World Medical Cannabis Conference; KDKA's David Highfield reports.

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The reality TV star has reportedly spoken to President Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner several times to advocate for Alice-Marie Johnson.

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Daytime talk show co-host gains nearly 20 lbs after divorce - and feels more like herself

In before-and-after photos, the 39-year-old TV personality posed in the same dress at her previous weight and after her gain. She looks gorgeous in both, but she feels better now, on a



Jeannie Mai Reveals She Gained 17 Lbs. Just Days After Ex Announced His New Girlfriend is Pregnant



As She Preps For 40 And Moves On From Divorce, Jeannie Mai Is Happily Gaining Weight

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A Beverly Hills teen who calls herself "a princess" is furious at her mother for slashing her monthly \$8K allowance.



15-Year-Old With \$1,000 Monthly Allowance: 'I Feel Like A Peasant'



Spoiled teen complains that her allowance is cut from \$5,000 to \$1,000



Sports Steelers Wire

Pat McAfee explains how Troy Polamalu ruined his life

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