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JASON BROWNE

I became active in the cannabis movement in 1995 as a volunteer with Cannabis Action Network. When the Compassionate Use Act was made law, I dove in headfirst and helped organize what would become the Humboldt Cannabis Center. I also cofounded several organizations dedicated to the implementation of California's medicinal cannabis laws.

Since the closure of H.C.C. in 2001, I've directed my attention to advocating a far better implementation model than most cannabis dispensaries have provided—that of Direct Access. This model is protected under California law and provides for things which many dispensaries cannot, such as greatly reduced costs, effective isolation of particular strains and quality assurances of the cannabis being produced. It's a shinning example of self-regulation and true grassroots organizing. Most importantly, it allows patients to produce their medicine collectively and to network their resources in consumer cooperatives.

Having retired as a primary caregiver, I'm taking a new path. I will continue to advocate for patients' rights in other ways—as an expert witness to the courts, a legal and horticultural consultant, an amateur legislator and a public citizen with a voice.



VALERIE LEVERONI CORRAL

After a car accident that caused brain trauma and left her with epilepsy, Valerie began to use marijuana medicinally along with her pharmaceuticals and soon, she phased out the pharmacy meds all together. In 1992, she along with her husband Mike, were arrested for the cultivation of five cannabis plants, and since then Valerie has been a critical figure in the war to legalize medical marijuana. She was the first marijuana patient to challenge the existing laws in California, and as a result of her 1993 judiciary success, the Wo/Men's Alliance for Medical Marijuana (WAMM) was born. Valerie and her husband have been arrested more than once since 1992, but continue to battle the system for us all. It is because of her that many patients in California have access to the medicine they so desperately need. Michael Corral and Valerie Leveroni Corral are the proud recipients of the 2005 Norman E. Zinberg Award for Achievement in the field of medicine.



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RESPECT

Mom, for making the best grilled cheese sandwiches ever! Sheriff Billy, for his "Kind" donations.

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