## Ascend Wellness Holdings Investor Roadshow Presentation June 2022





#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS



This presentation includes forward-looking information and statements (together, "forward-looking statements"), which may include, but are not limited to, the plans, intentions, expectations, estimates, and beliefs of the Ascend Wellness Holdings, Inc ("AWH" or the "Company"). Words such as "expects", "continue", "will", "anticipates" and "intends" or similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Without limiting the generality of the preceding statement, all statements in this presentation relating to estimated and projected revenue, expectations regarding production capacity, anticipated capital expenditures, proceeds from sale-leasebacks, expansion, profit, product demand, margins, costs, cash flows, sources of capital, growth rates and future financial and operating results are forward-looking statements. We caution investors that any such forward-looking statements are based on the Company's current projections and expectations about future events and financial trends, the receipt of all required regulatory approvals, and on certain assumptions and analysis made by the Company in light of the experience of the Company and perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments and other factors management believes are appropriate. Forward-looking statements involve and are subject to assumptions and known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors which may cause actual events, results, performance, or achievements of the Company to be materially different from future events, results, performance, and achievements expressed or implied by forward-looking statements herein. Such factors include, among other, the risks and uncertainties identified in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, and in the Company's other reports and filings with the applicable Canadian securities regulators on its profile on SEDAR at www.sedar.com and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") at www.sec.gov. Although the Company believes that any forwardlooking statements herein are reasonable, in light of the use of assumptions and the significant risks and uncertainties inherent in such statements, there can be no assurance that any such forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate, and accordingly readers are advised to rely on their own evaluation of such risks and uncertainties and should not place undue reliance upon such forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statements herein are made as of the date hereof, and except as required by applicable laws, the Company assumes no obligation and disclaims any intention to update or revise any forward-looking statements herein or to update the reasons that actual events or results could or do differ from those projected in any forward looking statements herein, whether as a result of new information, future events or results, or otherwise, except as required by applicable laws. The Canadian Securities Exchange has not reviewed, approved or disapproved the content of this presentation.

## CANNABIS MARKET BY THE NUMBERS

Unprecedented growth across the emerging industry with room for continued expansion

**SALES** 



US LEGAL SALES<sup>1</sup> IN 2021 STATES PLUS DC RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

**STATES** 

18

**SUPPORT** 

68%

US CITIZENS SUPPORT LEGALIZATION<sup>3</sup>

# \$46Bn

US LEGAL SALES BY 2026<sup>2</sup> 38

STATES HAVE MEDICAL PROGRAMS

**\$62Bn** GLOBAL LEGAL MEDICAL SALES

OF US STATES LEGAL MEDICAL OR RECREATIONAL

70%

BILLS IN-PLAY

>50%

CONGRESS SUPPORTS LEGALIZATION<sup>3</sup>

- I. "How Cannabis pricing differs from other consumer goods". Deloitte with HIFYRE and BDSA.
- 2. "US Cannabis Collective: Ahead of the Curve". Vivien Azer @ Cowen Research.

BY 2024<sup>4</sup>

- 3. "Welcome to Cannabis High..." Wolfe Research.
  - https://www.dlapiper.com/da/dlobal/pews/2020/02/dla-piper-laupches-global-cappabis-practice/

AWH

## OVERVIEW



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Vertically integrated operator with assets in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Owns and operates state-of-the-art cultivation facilities; grows award-winning strains and produces a curated selection of products.

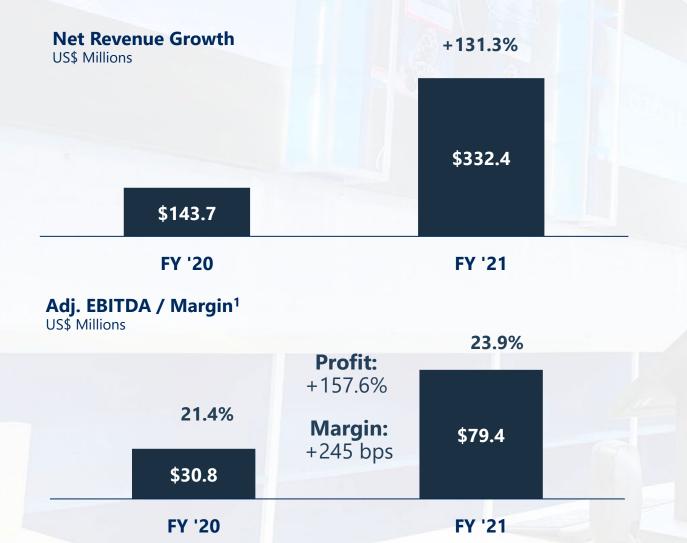
Tickers	CSE: AAWH.U; OTCQX: AAWH	EV <sup>1</sup>	\$631M			
Founded	2018	Market Cap <sup>1</sup>	\$541M			
Headquarters	eadquarters New York Revenue / YoY Growth		2020 2021	\$144M / +1100% \$332M / +131%		
Employees	~1,500	Adj. EBITDA / Margin	2020 2021	\$31M / 21.5% \$79M / 23.9%		
States of Operation	NJ, MI, OH, IL, MA, PA	EV / 2022E Revenue <sup>(2)</sup>	1.9x			
Dispensaries	21 open	EV / 2022E Adj. EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup>	5.9x			
Cultivation	5 open	Total Debt / Cash	\$234M / \$144M			

1. Market Cap: 181.1M of fully diluted shares outstanding times \$2.99 share price (CSE) on 5/30/22 equals \$536M market cap. Market cap plus \$90M of net debt equals \$631M enterprise value

2. 2022 estimates based on consensus and stock price as of 5/9/22.

## FY FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (US\$ MILLIONS)

FY'20 VS. FY'21





- Y/Y revenue growth driven by 6 new store openings and 100,000 sq. ft of canopy expansions
- Y/Y 245 bps of margin expansion driven by expanded utilization of wholesale footprint and leveraged G&A

1. Adjusted Gross Profit / Margin and Adjusted EBITDA / Margin are non-GAAP financial measures. Please see the "GAAP Reconciliations" at the end of this presentation for a reconciliation of non-GAAP to GAAP measures.



FOCUS: ACHIEVE SCALE IN SELECT LIMITED LICENSE MARKETS

**KEY FLAGSHIP LOCATIONS WITH HIGH BARRIERS TO ENTRY** 

DISCIPLINED CAPITAL ALLOCATION; SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF M&A

MANAGEMENT WITH PROVEN TRACK RECORD OF EXECUTION IN IL

CONTINUED MARGIN IMPROVEMENT AS MORE ASSETS ARE "TURNED ON"

STRONG FINANCIALS AND REVENUE GROWTH





Continue to scale our asset base of premier retail locations and state-of-the art cultivation facilities

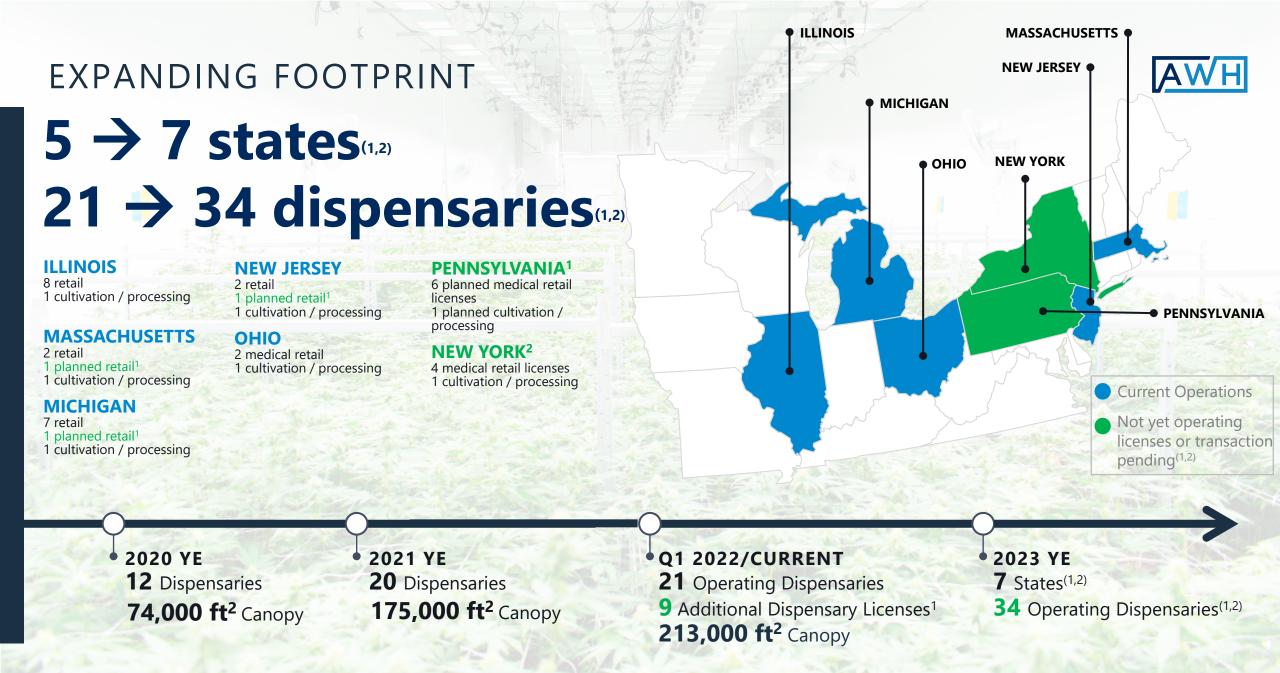
#### MEET IMPENDING RECREATIONAL DEMAND IN NJ, SOLIDIFY POSITION AS TOP PLAYER IN THE STATE

DRAMATIC INCREASES IN PRODUCTION IN IL, MA, NJ, & PA

#### CONTINUE EXPANSION INTO EXISTING MARKETS, PARTICULARLY ILLINOIS & MASSACHUSETTS

IMPROVE BOTH RETAIL & WHOLESALE OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

EXPAND & ELEVATE CURRENT BRAND PORTFOLIO



1. License is owned by AWH, but the site is not yet operational and/or under construction.

2. Includes NY transaction which is expected to close in the coming weeks. The transaction would include 4 operating dispensaries and 1 cultivation facility.

## 4 OF TOP REC MARKETS AND 2 OF TOP MEDICAL MARKETS



State	Population (2021 in Millions) <sup>(1)</sup>	Total Number of Dispensaries (2021) <sup>(2,3)</sup>	Population Per Dispensary	State Rank <sup>(4)</sup>	2020E Legal plus Illicit Sales (\$U.S. Billions) <sup>(4)</sup>
RECREATIONA	L				
Illinois	12.7	111	115,000	4	\$3.2
Michigan	10.1	448	22,500	5	\$2.8
New Jersey	9.3	23	620,000	7	\$2.2
Massachusetts	7.0	130	54,000	9	\$1.9
New York <sup>(5)</sup>	19.5	38	513,000	2	\$5.4
MEDICAL					
Ohio	11.8	53	223,000	3	\$2.7
Pennsylvania	13.0	136	103,000	2	\$2.9

1. 2021 Census. U.S. Census Bureau's Vintage 2021 national and state population estimates.

2. Grown In Cannabis fact Sheet, January 2022; medical and recreational dispensaries.

3. Pennsylvania DOH, Medical Marijuana Dispensaries in Pennsylvania, as of February 2022.

4. "Initiate on US Cannabis: Generational Wealth Opportunity, Avg. Upside > 100%", Jefferies, July 7, 2021. Rank based on 2020E legal and illicit sales by the state in each respective categories (medical vs recreational).

5. Adult use legislation passed but recreational sales have not yet started.

## HIGHLY DESIRABLE FLAGSHIP LOCATIONS





#### ST. LOUIS AREA COLLINSVILLE

Strategically located in the retail corridor near St. Louis



#### CHICAGO RIVER NORTH

Located just outside Chicago Loop, the central shopping and business district



#### BOSTON BOSTON GARDEN / FANEUIL HALL

Downtown Boston located between TD Garden and Faneuil Hall



#### NEW JERSEY PARAMUS AREA

On Rt. 17 and a mile from Garden State Plaza in Northern NJ



#### NEW JERSEY FORT LEE

Minutes to the George Washington Bridge, NJ Turnpike, and NJ Rt. 46

## CULTIVATION UPDATE

State	Canopy at YE21 (ft <sup>2</sup> )	Current May 2022	
IL	113,000	113,000	
MI	28,000	28,000	
MA	17,000	54,000	
NJ	16,000	16,000	N. A
OH	2,000	2,000	345
Total	176,000	213,000	

- NJ canopy expansion underway; expect 42,000 sq. ft total by year-end
- First harvest of the expanded canopy in Illinois is expected to benefit Q2
- Completed 37,000 sq. ft of the canopy expansion in Massachusetts; the first harvest is expected before summer





### **RETAIL UPDATE**

# 43%

# \$12.7M

AWH OR PARTNER PRODUCTS AVERAGE REVENUE PER DISPENSARY

- Continue to increase AWH products as % of retail sales
- Highest revenue per dispensary of US multi-state operators
- Opened 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Boston as immersive cannabis experience
- Opened East Lansing, MI on Friday May 27th

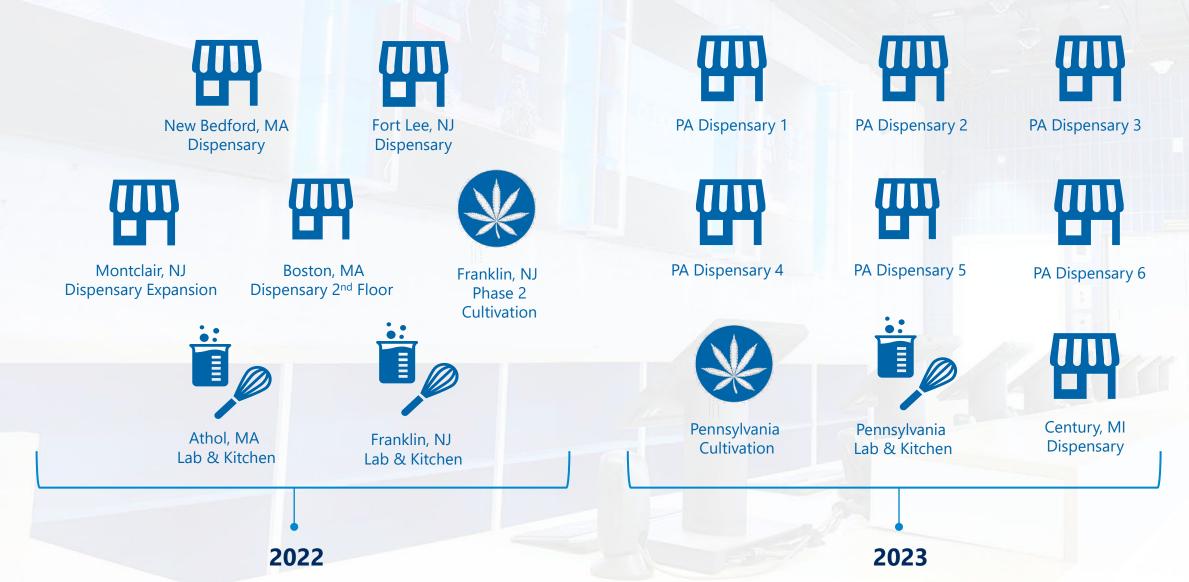






## PIPELINE OF ASSETS

Significant upside from assets "turning on" in 2022 and 2023





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## LAUNCHING A NEW VALUE BRAND

Value brands comprise 25% of sales<sup>1</sup> in Simply Herb markets



LAUNCHING NOW IL, MA, MI **FORM FACTORS** Flower, pre-rolls **POTENCY** Flower THC 18-22% **CONSUMER** The price conscious consumer **PRICE \$\$\$\$**\$





**POTENCY** Flower THC 22-25%

O TIONE

**CONSUMER** Cannabis consumer looking for a quality, trusted, everyday brand

**PRICE \$\$\$\$** 

O ZÔN E RFSFRVF



#### **AVAILABLE** IL, MA, MI

FORM FACTORS Edibles, vape, flower, infused prerolls, concentrates

**QUALITY** Flower THC 25%+; broad terpene profiles, higher quality buds, etc

**CONSUMER** Provides the most exceptional cannabis experience to the 'canna-connoisseur' **PRICE \$\$\$\$** 

BEST

#### GOOD

#### BETTER

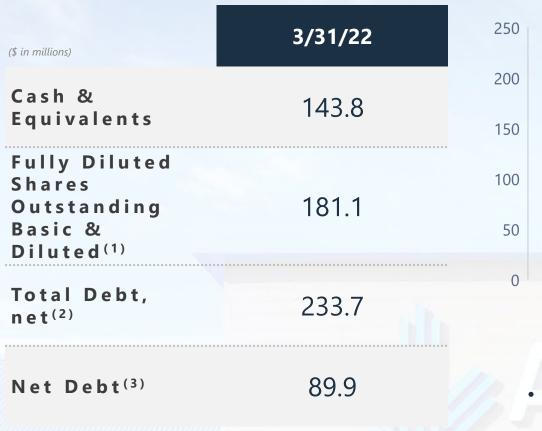




## Q1 2022 BALANCE SHEET AND CASH FLOW



3/31/22



# 155 -10 -1 -1 144

**Cash & Equivalents** 

\$10M cash used for operations

12/31/21

Cashused for

\$1M cash used for investing (proceeds from NJ sale-leaseback nearly offsetting payments made for acquisitions in prior quarters and capital investments)

Cost used

Service of used

- \$1M cash used for debt payment
- Includes 174.4M Class A Common Shares, 65k Class B shares, 6.6M of unvested Restricted Stock Units or Restricted Stock Awards, and 17.6k in the money warrants. There are 3.5M warrants outstanding at an exercise price of \$4. Dilution was calculated using the treasury stock method and a 3/31/31 share price of US\$4.02 on the CSE.
- (2) Total Debt, net is equal to Total debt less unamortized deferred financing costs.
- (3) Net debt is equal to Total Debt, net less Cash & Equivalents.
- Note: waterfall may not foot due to rounding.

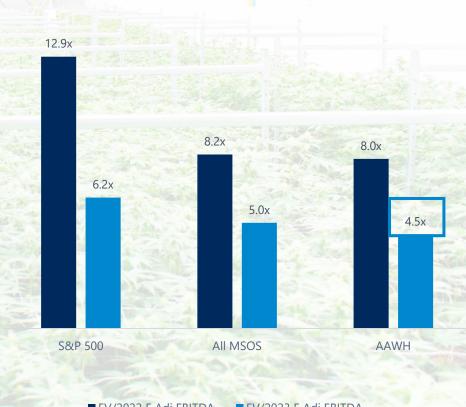
## VALUATION DISPARITY

Company and Industry poised for re-rate

**Consensus Adjusted EBITDA Growth** 

**EV/ Adjusted EBITDA Multiples** 





EV/2022 E Adj EBITDA EV/2023 E Adj EBITDA

All MSOs includes Tier 1 and Tier 2. Tier 1 includes Curaleaf, Green Thumb, Cresco, Trulieve. Tier 2 includes AWH, Ayr, Jushi, Terrascend, Verano, and Columbia Care. Multiples based on factset data as of 5/4/2022. **IAW** 

## COMMITTED TO PEOPLE AND THE PLANET



Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) initiatives; AWH has pledged to several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (several of which are highlighted below) and is disclosing data aligned with the Sustainable Accounting Standards Board (SASB) in the Company's 2021 annual report

#### 1 NO POVERTY

#### **Job Creation**

AWH has created strong jobs in areas with high unemployment e.g. AWH has created 400 jobs in Pike county, IL and is the county's largest employer.

#### **Strong Wages**

Depending on state, job position, and labor markets, all field eployees are paid an average of \$4.70 to \$14.50 per hour more than minimum wage.

#### **Employee Resource Groups (ERGs)**



AWH has over 100 employees participating in 3 ERGs (Women in Leadership, LGBTQIA+, and Black) to promote an inclusive culture and environment.

#### Data Example

37% of leadership positions (supervisor and up) are held by females; 26% of leadership positions held by ethnic minorities. Working to increase both stats to improve parity.



#### Benefits

AWH provides employees with a 401k plan, FSA plan, Long-Term and Short-Term Incentive plan, and comprehensive core and voluntary benefits.

#### COVID

AWH provided numerous COVID related benefits to employees including 36 hours of PTO and gift cards to incentivize vaccination rates.



#### **Expungement Clinics**

AWH has contributed funds to the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) institute, which seeks to educate attorneys interested in learning the ins and outs of the expungement process.

#### **Incubation Nonprofit**

In January 2022, AWH established the Ascend Foundation, a 501(c)(4) with a commitment to support individuals who qualify as social equity applicants.

## APPENDIX

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# USE OF NON-GAAP FINANCIAL METRICS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



This presentation includes certain non-GAAP financial measures as defined by the SEC including Adjusted Gross Profit, Adjusted Gross Margin, Adjusted EBITDA, and Adjusted EBITDA margin. Reconciliations of these non-GAAP financial measures to the most directly comparable financial measures calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP are included in the appendix. This information should be considered as supplemental in nature and not as a substitute for, or superior to, any measure of performance prepared in accordance with GAAP.

We define "Adjusted Gross Profit" as gross profit excluding non-cash inventory costs, which include depreciation and amortization included in cost of goods sold, equity-based compensation included in cost of goods sold, start-up costs included in cost of goods sold, and other non-cash inventory adjustments. We define "Adjusted Gross Margin" as Adjusted Gross Profit as a percentage of net revenue. Our "Adjusted EBITDA" is a non-GAAP measure used by management that is not defined by U.S. GAAP and may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies. We define "Adjusted EBITDA Margin" as Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of net revenue. Management calculates Adjusted EBITDA as the reported net loss, adjusted to exclude: income tax expense; other (income) expense; interest expense; depreciation and amortization; depreciation and amortization included in cost of goods sold; start-up costs; start-up costs included in cost of goods sold; transaction-related and other non-recurring expenses; litigation settlement; and loss on sale of assets. Accordingly, management believes that Adjusted EBITDA provides meaningful and useful financial information, as this measure demonstrates the operating performance of the business. Non-GAAP financial measures may be considered in addition to the results prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP, but they should not be considered a substitute for, or superior to, U.S. GAAP results.



## GAAP RECONCILIATIONS (\$000S)

	FY 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	FY 2021	Q1 2022
Adjusted Gross Profit							
Gross Profit Gross Margin	\$ 60,914 42.4%	\$ 29,667 44.9%	<b>\$ 34,516</b> <i>41.4%</i>	<b>\$ 40,954</b> 43.4%	\$ 30,835 34.8%	\$ <b>135,972</b> 40.9%	\$ 23,447 27.6%
Depreciation and amortization included in cost of goods sold	3,696	2,162	2,387	2,063	3,000	9,612	2,943
Equity-based compensation included in cost of goods sold Start-up costs <sup>(1)</sup> included in cost of goods sold	-			349	2,580	2,929	3,995 3,923
Non-cash inventory adjustments <sup>(2)</sup>	146	750	2,714	335	1,115	4,914	2,204
Adjusted Gross Profit Adjusted Gross Margin	\$ 64,756 45.1%	\$ 32,579 <i>49.3%</i>	\$ 39,617 <i>47.5%</i>	\$ 43,701 <i>46.3%</i>	\$ 37,530 42.4%	\$ 153,427 <i>46.2%</i>	\$ 36,512 <i>42.9%</i>

FY 2020 Q1 2021 Q2 2021 Q3 2021 Q4 2021 FY 2021 Q1 2022 Adjusted EBITDA Net Income / (Loss) \$ (23,841) \$ (48,223) \$ (44,897) \$ (13,026) \$ (16,511) \$ (122,657) \$ (27,815) 18,702 8,976 11,995 12,307 8,442 41,720 7,107 Income tax expense Other (income) expense (7) (80) (82) (44) (50) (256) (103) 12,993 7,337 36,888 12,376 7,388 6,031 Interest expense 63,989 7,914 2,419 2,470 2,520 2,628 10,037 2,732 Depreciation and amortization Depreciation and amortization included in cost of goods sold 3.696 2.162 2.387 2,063 3,000 9,612 2,943 Non-cash inventory adjustments 146 750 2,714 335 1,115 4,914 2,204 680 2,487 2,587 2,504 Equity-based compensation 1,711 8,565 15,350 3 005 Equity-based compensation included in cost of goods sold 3/10 2 5 80 2 9 2 9

Adjusted EBITDA Marain	<i>3 30,830 21.4%</i>	23.9%		24.9%	• •	• •		.2%	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 30.830	Ś 15.828	\$ 20.308	\$ 23,534	\$ 19,758	\$ 79,428	\$ 16.3	370	
Litigation settlement	-	36,511				36,511	5,0	000	
(Gain) / Loss on the sale of assets	286			649	(44)	605	5	818	
Transaction-related and other non-recurring expenses <sup>(4)</sup>	2,164	2,178	5,406	2,191	1,434	11,209	6,1	194	
Start-up costs <sup>(1)</sup> included in cost of goods sold							3,9	923	
Start-up costs <sup>(3)</sup>	8,097	1,311	1,716	1,227	1,211	5,465	8	837	
Equity-based compensation included in cost of goods sold	-	_	-	545	2,580	2,929	3,5	555	

(1) Incremental expenses associated with the expansion of activities at our cultivation facilities that are not yet operating at scale, including excess overhead expenses resulting in delays from regulatory approvals at certain cultivation facilities. (2) Primarily consists of write-offs of expired products and obsolete packaging.

(3) One-time costs associated with acquiring real estate, obtaining licenses and permits, and other costs incurred before commencement of operations at certain locations.

(4) Legal and professional fees associated with litigation matters, potential acquisitions, and other regulatory matters and other non-recurring expenses. The prior year includes expenses related to the Company's Initial Public Offering.

# **ASCEND WELLNESS HOLDINGS**

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