

# WEED

WE EXPLORE EXTRAORDINARY DESTINATIONS



## Open Your Mind To New Medicinal Innovations For **Depression**

Patrick Novotny



# Persona One:

## DEPRESSION

**Name: Bre Lopez**

**Age: 23**

**Facts:** Depression is a common, serious illness and not a personal weakness. Depression can happen to anyone, at any age, and to people of any race or ethnic group. It is never a "normal" part of life. Major depressive disorder affects approximately 14.8 million American adults, or about 6.7 percent of the U.S. population age 18 and older in a given year.

**Habits:** Bre Lopez has lived with depression for practically her whole life. Having a rough past, for years she has been battling the ever growing sadness that threatened to engulf and drown her with hatred of her life; becoming mean, bitter, and aggressive. She has always heard voices but for the most part was able to keep it under control, until the loss of her grandfather in September 2009 which finally broke her completely and the voices began to wash over her in a tidal wave of anger and hatred. Everyday she would have panic attacks, waking up in the middle of the night screaming with tears running down her cheeks. It wasn't until she counted over 300 scars from self mutilation that she finally sought out help, where she was immediately sent to a therapist and diagnosed as mildly depressed and schizophrenic.

The therapist prescribed her medication that put her in a zombie like state of mind for a month until she decided to stop taking it. After becoming pregnant and having to give her baby up for adoption, the depression came back with a vengeance.

**Behaviors:** One night her boyfriend offered if she wanted to smoke marijuana, and after passing a bowl back and forth, she realized that for the first time in years, her head was silent. She was finally at peace, as she slept that night with no nightmares and no more waking up in tears. She was utterly relaxed to the point where even her anger was gone. After beginning to medicate with marijuana, she has felt like a new person, gone was the angry, bitter and aggressive girl and in her place was a relaxed, happy woman.





## Open Your Mind To New Medicinal Innovations For **Epilepsy**

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# Persona Two:

## EPILEPSY

**Name: Zaki Jackson**

**Age: 10**

**Facts:** Epilepsy is a disorder in which nerve cell activity in the brain is disturbed, causing seizures. 1 in 26 Americans will develop epilepsy in their lifetime, and An estimated 3 million Americans and 65 million people worldwide currently live with epilepsy.

**Habits:** Since he was just a few months old, 10-year-old Zaki Jackson has suffered from a rare form of epilepsy that, at its worst, causes him to have thousands of seizures a day. The seizures, which his mother describes as a “full body electrocution,” render him unable to talk or walk, and sometimes cause him to stop breathing. Over the past decade, his family has tried to combat his syndrome with 17 different pharmaceutical medications, a specialized diet and alternative forms of therapy like acupuncture. The various medications have caused him to gain weight, become incoherent, experience extreme cramping and lose his ability to sleep, but they’ve never stopped the seizures.

**Behaviors:** One of his doctors, Dr. Margaret Gedde recommended Zaki start taking a strain of medical marijuana that’s high in cannabidiol, a non-psychoactive ingredient known for treating seizures, and low in THC. Since Zaki began the treatment more than a year ago, he has been seizure-free. He had 10 years of nonstop seizures and sedating medication, now he’s able to start developing as a normal child. He’s a delightful, charming kid. Before that he couldn’t even be in contact with people. It was a dramatic, complete change. Zaki is one of more than 180 Colorado children currently being treated with a special strain of medical cannabis that’s helping to combat their extreme seizures and other debilitating conditions.





Open Your Mind To New Medicinal Innovations For **PTSD**

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# Persona Three:

## PTSD

**Name: Mike Mckenna**

**Age: 46**

**Facts:** Untreated, PTSD does not get better in time, It often gets worse. 18 veterans commit suicide each day. 126 each week. 6,552 each year. Soldiers with PTSD are more likely to be divorced, be a single parent or become homeless.

**Habits:** Mike Mckenna went to Vietnam right after his 18th birthday. When he had been there for two weeks, his crew lost the first men that he knew. Back at base camp, he sat in the dark by himself wondering what had happened, asking himself where these souls went, and was there a heaven for men who died the way they did. His job over there was to deal not only with the dead but theirs also, along with murders, suicides and heroin overdoses. As he stared into the darkness he heard a voice from behind saying "Man, you shouldn't be out here by yourself thinking about this shit or you'll go nuts." He said he would be right back, and upon returning he had a big joint in his hand and asked Mike if he had tried pot before. That night alone in the dark, he smoked the whole thing. It did not make him forget, just allowed for him to digest the pain and fear peacefully and respectfully with dignity.



**Behaviors:** Upon returning home, he was hit by the same problems that most other vets got: unemployable, hate and prejudice. All he had was family and close friends, and that didn't last. So instead he threw away all the people who knew and loved him. Eventually he got strung out on heroin, a \$500 a day habit. When he found himself thinking about robbing places to support this habit, he decided to quit. He then turned to marijuana, which brought him to the realization that cannabis was no longer just a party high but rather a survival tool, using it to cope with everyday things that others seemed to do on their own. Marijuana has transformed Michael into a nicer and more romantic partner to his spouse.





Open Your Mind To New Medicinal Innovations For **Cancer**

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# Persona Four:

## CANCER

**Name: Dennis Hill**

**Age: 67**

**Facts:** There are more than 100 types of cancers; any part of the body can be affected. Cancer affects everyone – the young and old, the rich and poor, men, women and children. It is one of the leading causes of death in the world, particularly in developing countries. Tobacco use is the single largest preventable cause of cancer in the world causing 22% of cancer deaths

**Habits:** Three years ago, after a prostate biopsy, Dennis Hill was given the diagnosis of aggressive Stage III adenocarcinoma. The urologist made appointments for him to start radiation, and maybe chemo. Then a friend told him about how cannabis cures cancer. It just so happened that the first human trials of cannabis treatment of astrocytomas (inoperable brain cancer), were published with encouraging results. So he decided; rather than die from the medical treatment, he would instead give the cannabis cure a try. Now, where to get some. There was no dispensary in the area, but a friend made me cannabis butter, so he took that, up to tolerance.



**Behaviors:** In three months of the cannabis treatment, the primary cancer was gone, only minor metastatic lesions were left. At that point he found a supplier for Rick Simpson oil and killed off the metastases in the next three months. Now he just take a maintenance dose of locally produced hash oil that is 1:1 THC:CBD with about a 30% potency. This will certainly keep him clear of cancer, anywhere, forever. In the face of advanced aggressive cancer, all he had was very weak cannabutter, but it was enough to eliminate the primary tumor. Now there are strains of 95% THC. More important than extreme potency, is balance between THC and CBD. If you can get high potency, great. If not, common potencies will work perfectly. Finally, if you choose cannabinoid treatment, start small, then increase dosage as rapidly as tolerable. To kill cancer you have to hit it hard and be conscience about your treatment. Cannabis does no harm to the body, it is a metabolic support for the immune system.

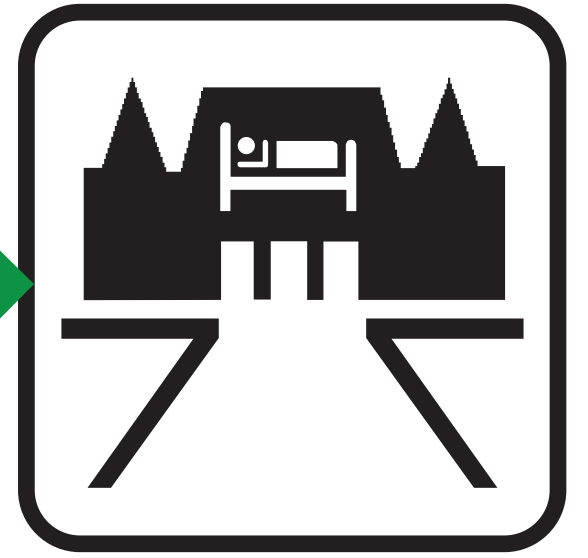




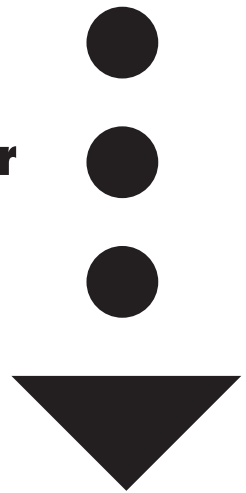
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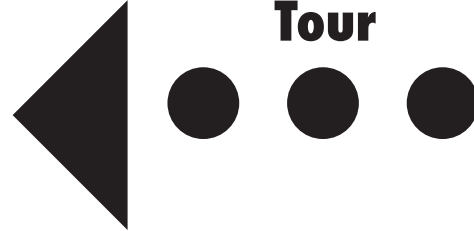
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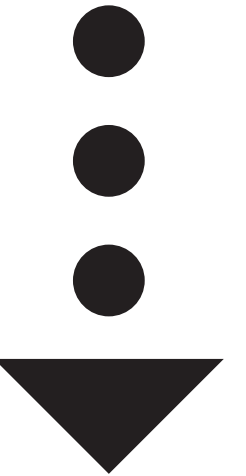
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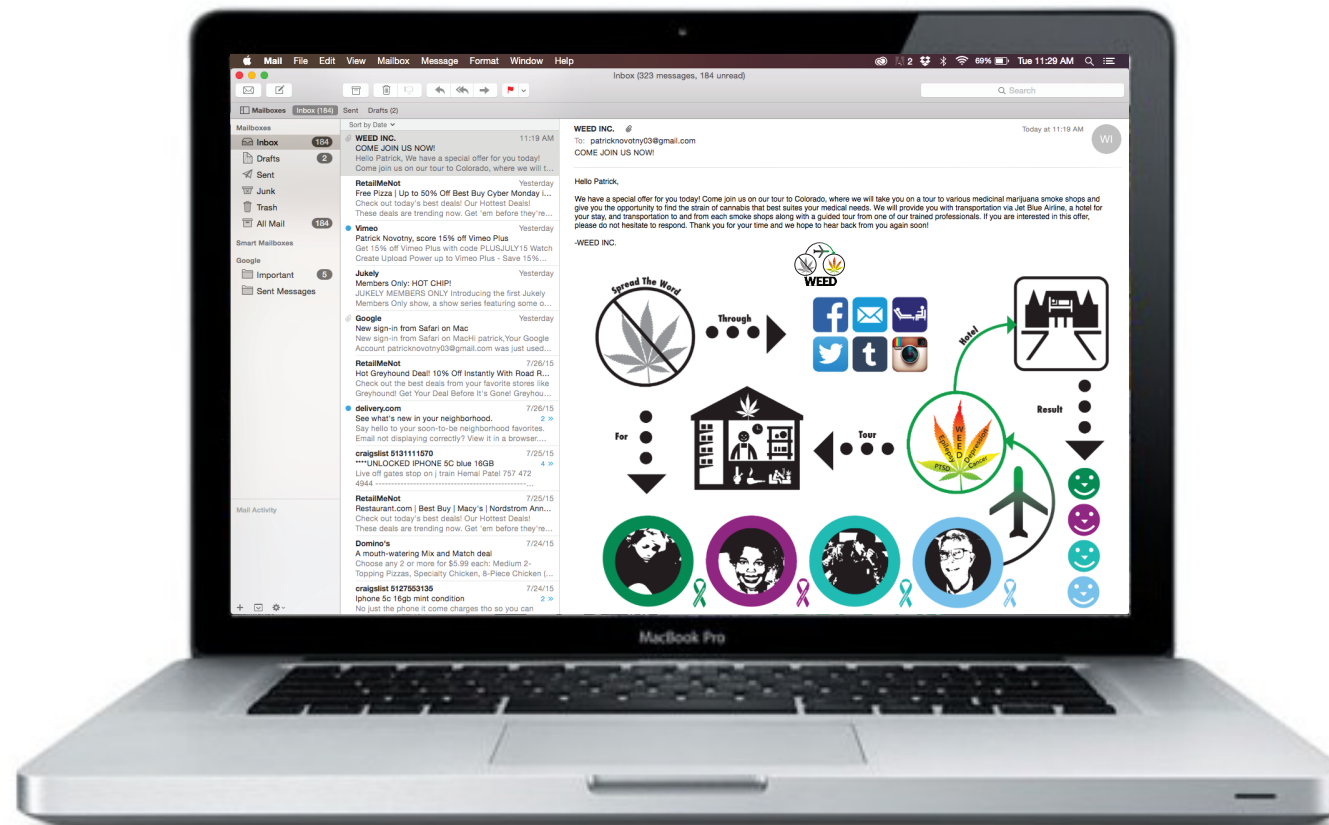


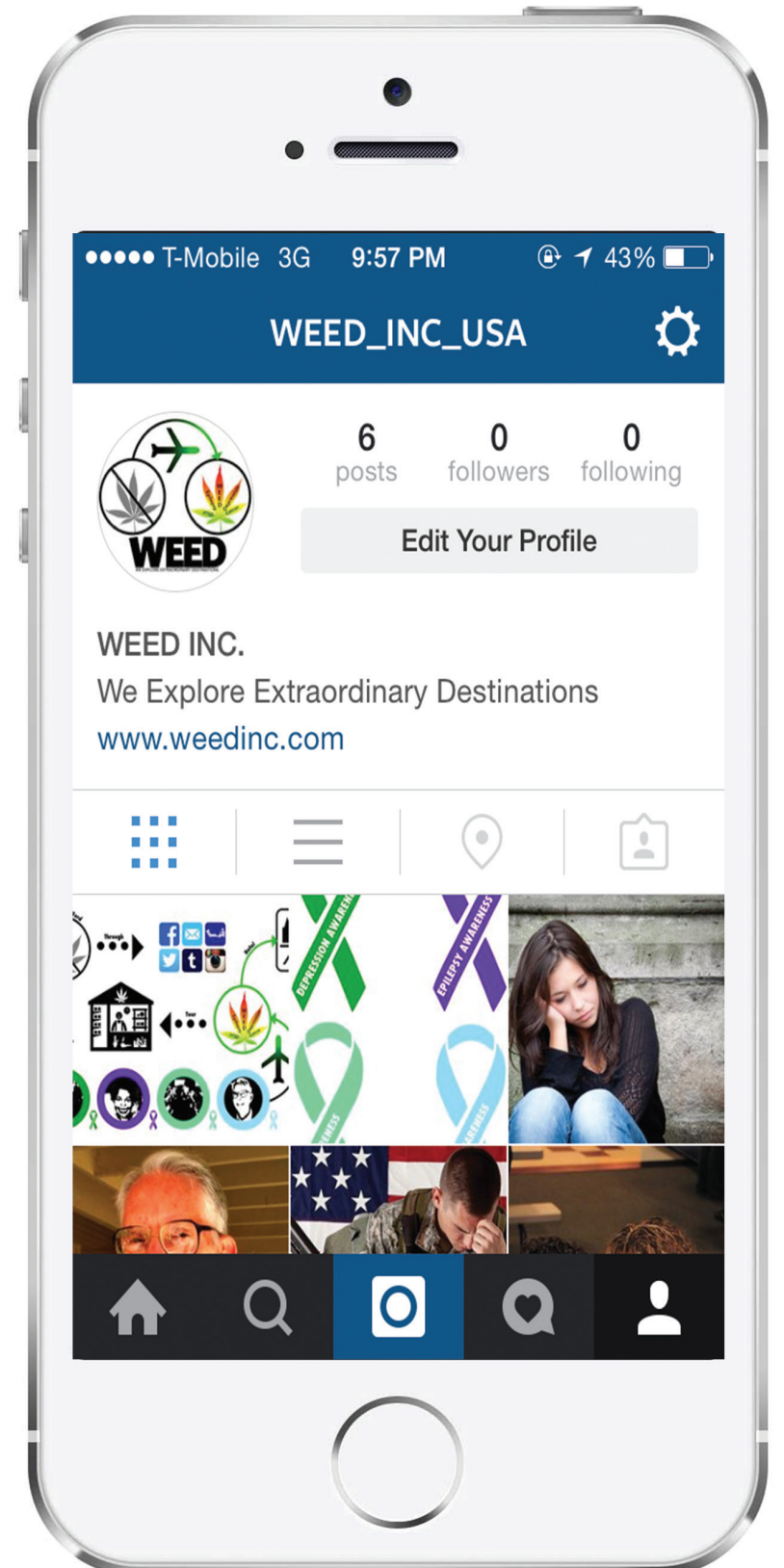
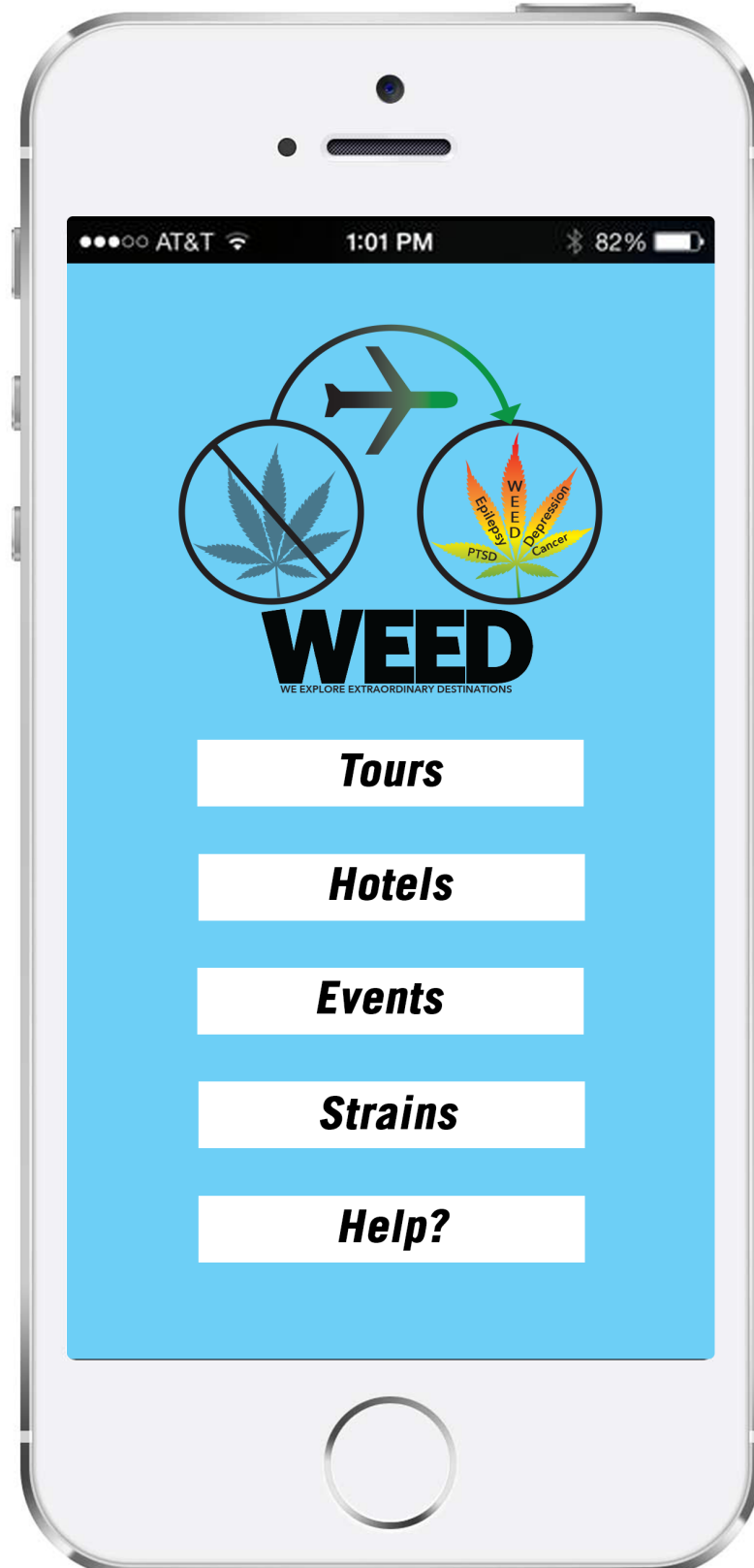
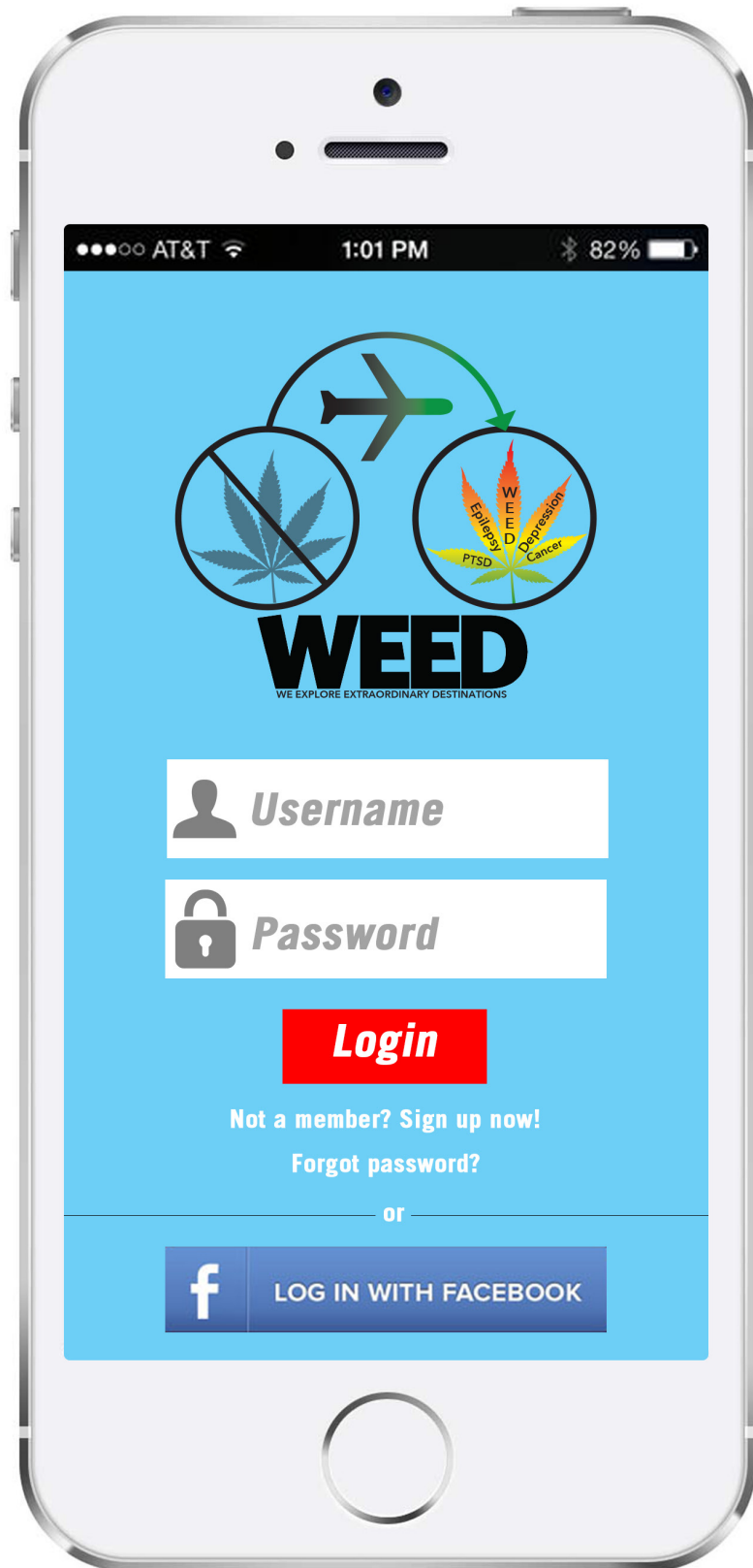
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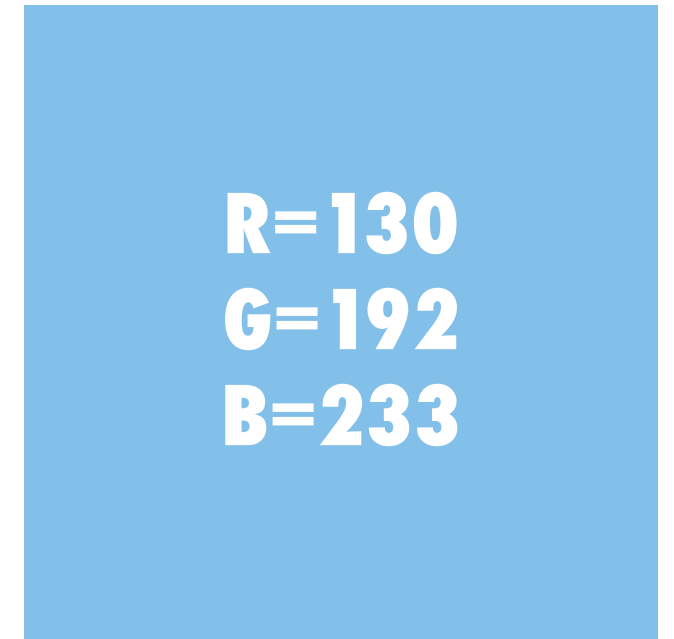
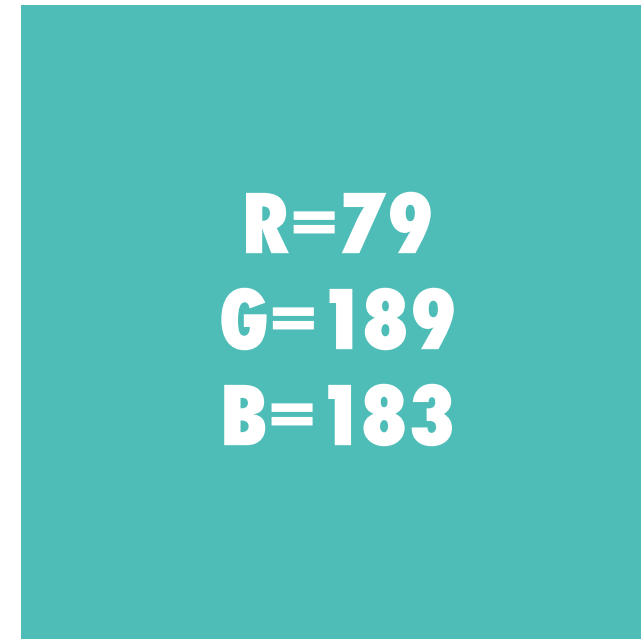
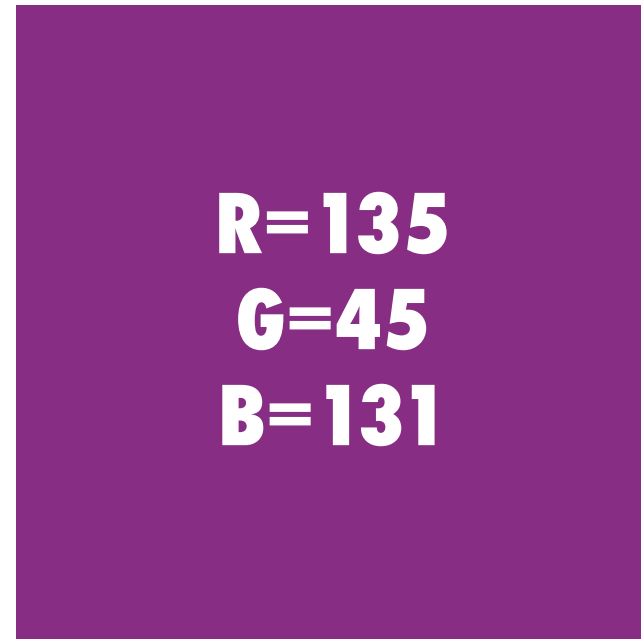
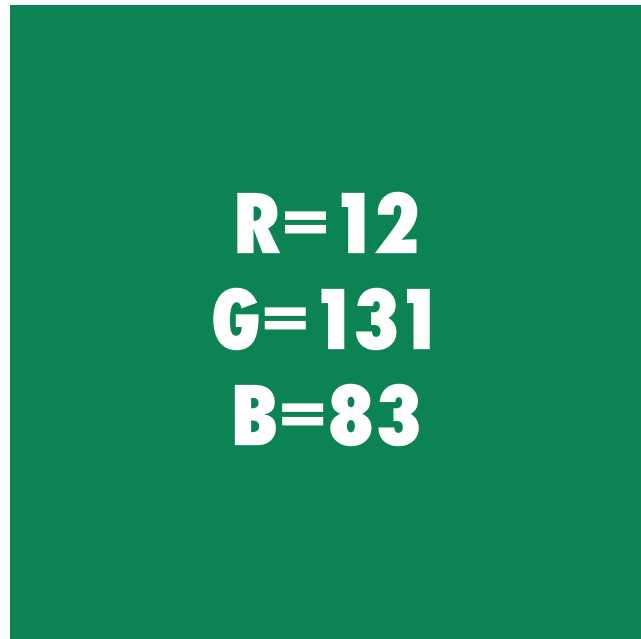
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