



# Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center

40 years 1978 - 2018

*Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center is a **membership organization**:*

- Non-profit 501(c)3 corporation with board of directors elected by membership
- Annual Community Congress helps to set priorities for coming year
- Community Engagement Committee meets monthly
- Directly serves more than 2,000 people annually, including over 300 public housing residents.
- More than 100 volunteers support our work each year.

**BHNC Mission:** *BHNC works to preserve and enhance the ethnic, cultural and economic diversity of Bernal Heights and surrounding neighborhoods.*

**BHNC goals** are to:

- Ensure a safe, diverse, and inclusive community
- Increase self-sufficiency and empowerment of community members
- Expand neighborhood well-being through economic and housing security

**Strategies** to achieve these goals:

- Serve the community with a multicultural, multilingual staff
- Develop leaders to voice community needs and engage in solutions



*Bernal Shines*  
by Bernal artist  
Todd Berman



## Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center ...Meeting Neighborhood Needs

**Youth programs** in Bernal Heights and the Excelsior bring together public and community programs to build educational and employment opportunities. Almost 400 youth, including foster youth, access these programs and build their leadership in the community.



**Resident Outreach Leader (ROL) program:** We work closely with aspiring leaders at our low-income housing sites and beyond in this 12-week curriculum, which entails intensive training in outreach, community engagement, event organizing and production, and other direct support activities—and involves collaboration with internal and external partners.



**Permanent affordability for tenants and Transformative housing programs:** BHNC has developed over 500 units of affordable rental housing. With BRIDGE Housing, BHNC is revitalizing two housing sites: Holly Courts (completed November 2017) and Alemany Housing (to be completed first quarter 2019). These projects benefit the residents *and* their neighbors by creating pleasant and safe affordable rental housing in our neighborhood.



Pyatak photo



**Community engagement:** Annual Community Congress; Bernal Hillwide Garage Sale with Bernal Business Alliance; Fiesta on the Hill; support for tenant councils at Alemany and Holly Courts housing sites; public safety meetings and projects with block clubs, including Tompkins Stairs lighting; encourage collaborative ventures among Bernal groups.



**Senior programs** respond to neighbors who lack access to healthy food and wellness programs. More than 1,000 multi-lingual people are served.

**Two community centers:** 515 Cortland Avenue in Bernal Heights and 4468 Mission Street in the Excelsior





*“The BHNC is the greatest asset to this community. I'm very proud to be one of the leaders that work with them. They have helped people not only in and around the neighborhood but they also host important public safety meetings.”*  
—Bobbi Cochran, Sergeant of Arms for Holly Courts Resident Council

*“BHNC has placed caring individuals at Alemany who have developed programs for the youth. My children participate and have fun interacting with the BHNC staff members. I appreciate them.”*—  
Mo'Raysha Puoua, Alemany resident



*“After having a stroke coming here has help me to make friends and have a well balanced meal.”*—Erlinda Gamboa, senior program participant

## ***Become a member!***

To join or donate see <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/bhnc>

To be placed on our email list, please contact us at [info@bhnc.org](mailto:info@bhnc.org)

**May 2018**

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**EXCELSIOR** | 4468 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94112 | ph: 415.334.9919 | fx: 415.334.9918

**BUILDING A JUST AND EQUITABLE COMMUNITY FOR ALL**

**bhnc.org**