The mission of Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center (BHNC) is to preserve and enhance the ethnic, cultural and economic diversity and well being of the Bernal Heights community. BHNC works to build a strong community for all, with a focus on the needs of low- and moderate-income people. BHNC does this by providing services, to support and increase opportunities for seniors, youth and others most-at-risk; by preserving and expanding access to affordable housing; and by building the neighborhood’s power and capacity to achieve these goals.

2006 Pedestrian Safety Project

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Award Amount: $9,990  
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BHNC is working to improve pedestrian safety conditions on Mission Street between Cesar Chavez and Randall Streets. This area of Mission Street attracts many pedestrians because it is both a local shopping street as well as a transit corridor. In August 2005, BHNC released their Mission Street Community Vision document. Many of the recommendations in this document regard improving pedestrian safety along Mission Street.

In 2005-2006, the San Francisco County Transportation Authority allocated $50,000 in Proposition K funds to fund a feasibility study involving technical analysis and prioritization of the recommendations listed in the Mission Street Community Vision as well as the development of conceptual designs, cost estimates, and funding strategies.

To complement this study, BHNC received a mini-grant from DPH to: 1) conduct further outreach to community residents and merchants to educate them about the pedestrian dangers and potential solutions for Mission Street, especially the recommendations on the Mission Street Community Vision; 2) engage community members in assessing, refining, and prioritizing proposals as part of the feasibility analysis; 3) organizing toward the goal of implementing pedestrian safety improvements that reflect the preferences of community members; and 4) meet with appropriate city officials and agency representatives in order to facilitate the implementation of prioritized recommendations.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.