

# Faces Of New Bedford #143: John Mosher

Meet John Mosher, 51-year-old Math Teacher, and Coach at New Bedford High School.



John has always been involved in sports and knew from an early age that he wanted to eventually coach and teach. John spent a little time in college after high school but still uncertain on what he wanted to do, he began working in the Dartmouth House of Corrections. After his time there, he went on to get his bachelors degree at Bridgewater State University and began to pursue his dream of teaching.

He began his career at New Bedford High School, teaching freshman algebra. John was quickly recruited to help out with the basketball team and after some time helping with the team, was asked to coach boys football. He did that for a short period of time but eventually took over the position of coaching the freshman basketball team. A few years ago, with the school being in desperate need of a Girls Lacrosse coach, he took the position, even though he didn't have a background in the sport at all.

He quickly fell in love with the sport and did as much work as he could to be able to build a successful team for the school.

Since his time with the team, they have made it to the state tournament, facing off against school systems that have youth feeder programs, training girls from the age 5 up, where New Bedford doesn't. He loves his job and is honored to have the impact he does on the incoming freshman every year.

John hopes to be able to help them set the foundation for their academic and professional careers early on so that they have the tools and knowledge to be successful in life. Aside from his positions at the school, John is also the director of St. Julies CYO program, where he coordinates the teams and coaches, while also coaching one of their boy's basketball teams.

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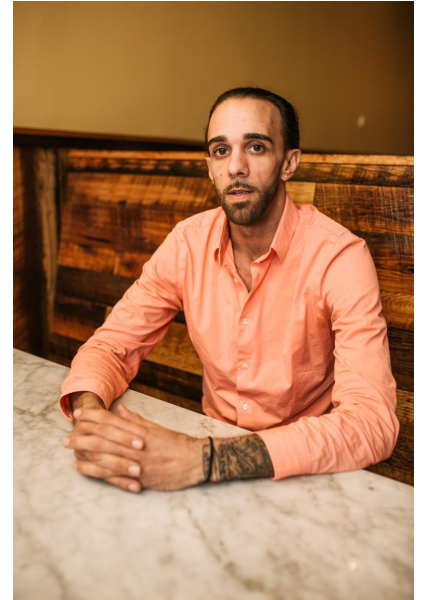
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## **Faces Of New Bedford #142: Randall Pina**

Meet Randall Pina, 34-year-old Entrepreneur, Realtor, and Developer.



Randall grew up in New Bedford and dealing with a lot of trouble during his youth, even dropping out of school twice, he knew he had to do something to change that. During a period where his parents were splitting up, he sold his last few possessions in his late teens and moved to Florida to stay with his grandmother to clear his mind.

While in Florida, Randall worked at a restaurant, where he met a man that changed his life, whether he knew it or not at the time. He would come in once a week and constantly give him tips about real estate and how to become successful in life. Taking heed to his advice, Randy went and got his broker's license, which landed him a position working for E Value mortgage. The owners took him under their wings and showed him everything they knew, but when the market crashed in 2008-2009, he was left with little money to his name and they relocated their business to bounce back during the recession.

With no other hope in mind, he moved back home and tried his luck back here. Just when things looked like they were going to pan out, he faced several failing businesses in the face and almost gave up on trying. Rather than walk away though, he turned those failures into the desire to truly succeed. He has since joined up with partners in Boston and helped sell 15 million dollars in properties to developers who work in condo

conversion and is planning to sell 75 million worth of property this year. Randall also has his hands in growing a franchise of pizza restaurants in Florida and startup that he hopes will help integrate smart technology into people's home's.

*"Fail hard and fail often, that is your success. You look at it as a failure because you didn't get what you wanted but it'll give you the fire to push to the next level."*

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## **Faces Of New Bedford #141: Rafaela DeFigueiredo Spence**

Meet Rafaela DeFigueiredo Spence, 36-year-old Principal of W. H. Taylor Elementary School.



Rafaela moved to New Bedford with her family from Brazil, just a day before her seventh birthday. Transitioning into school in the US was a difficult task for her, as she only knew how to speak Portuguese, but made the move to english speaking classes after 3 years as a bilingual student. Despite the difficulties of learning a new language, she had such a huge passion for school and learning.

This love drove her into a career path involved in the education field, going to Umass Dartmouth where she received a bachelors degree in Psychology and a masters degree in clinical psychology, which helped her become an Adjustment Counselor in the New Bedford Public Schools. She started her career at Pacheco Elementary and it was while there that the principal, Marcia Faucher, inspired her to begin her journey to become a principal in the New Bedford Public School System.

After receiving her doctorate from Northeastern University in Urban Leadership, she became the assistant principal at Gomes School and would eventually move on to become the principal of Kempton Elementary school. Due to restructuring in the cities school system, Kempton closed and Rafaela moved into the role of principal of W. H. Taylor School, located in the cities south end. While in this position she has helped facility the move to their new building and also impact the lives of her

students each day. She finds joy in working in the city she migrated to as a child because of her love for the home it has become and her desire to see each and every one of her students succeed.

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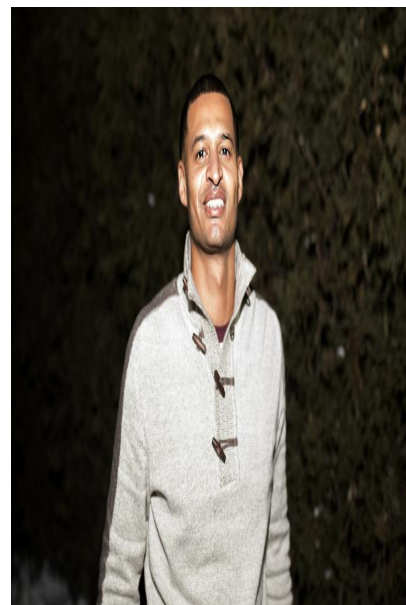
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## Faces Of New Bedford #140: John Silva

Meet John Silva, 38-year-old therapeutic mentor, referee and coach.



Jon started his coaching career during his freshman year of college, under the tutelage of Ed Rodrigues, while also

working as a paraprofessional at New Bedford High School. He coached alongside Coach Rodrigues from 2003 to 2006.

It was in 2006, when his wife took over the Montes Park Summer Basketball league, which was focused on the youth in the community and serviced the families that didn't have the transportation or money to send their kids to other basketball leagues in the city. He spent every summer until 2011, coaching teams and pouring into the youth in the south end of the city.

Jon was also working for Justice Resource Institute at the time, working with troubled youth who attended a day program because they were on house arrest or being processed through the judicial system. He from there became a therapeutic mentor, spending one on one time with youth who need help developing skills to be productive members of our community. He also refereed high school basketball games for and 2 years ago was hired to referee college basketball at the division 3 level.

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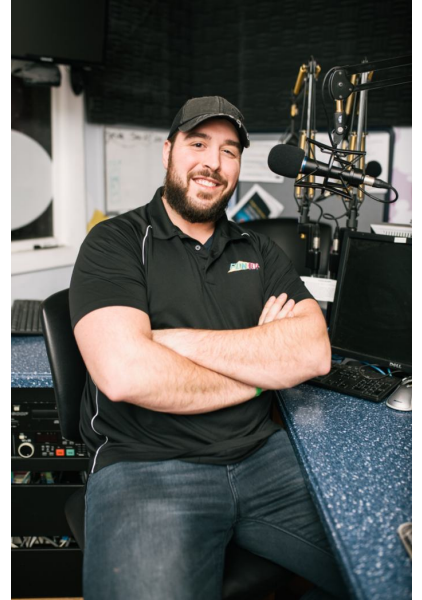
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# Faces Of New Bedford #139: Chris “Gazelle” Arsenault

Meet Chris “Gazelle” Arsenault, 30-year-old Morning Show Producer 2.0 and On-Air Personality at Fun107.



Chris has always had a love for music, picking up the saxophone as a child and learning to play 11 other instruments throughout his life. After high school, Chris wanted to get away to find himself, going to Lyndon State College in Vermont.

While there he started out with a major in Meteorology, but during his third year, they opened a Music Business with the Industry program, which immediately sparked his interest. Under the tutelage of one of his professors Joe Gittleman, bass player for the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, he soaked in as much information about the music industry that he could. He even had the opportunity to interview the Dropkick Murphys as a final project for his degree.

Upon graduating with his bachelor's degree, he moved back to the area and found himself doing promoting for Fun107. With many years of hard work and dedication, Chris filled in a temporary position on the morning show, which he eventually permanently filled. His love for the Southcoast fuels his



desire to put his all into his job at the station as well as his philanthropic endeavors. Not only has he been involved with a partnership with United Way New Bedford in their Holiday Wishes Program, as well as working with Misson 22 and PAACA's Homeless Count.

*"Always stay humble. I want to use my voice here for good."*

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## Faces Of New Bedford #138: Kathlyn Dias

Meet Kathlyn Dias, 26-year-old Model, Content Creator, and Social Media Influencer.



Kathlyn was born in New Bedford to two Cape Verdean parents, who migrated to New Bedford to create a better life for their family. After high school, Kathlyn attended Umass Dartmouth for one year and didn't return as she wasn't sure what she wanted to do for a career at that point in her life.

She had always dreamt of becoming a model and in magazines, so she began building a following on social media platforms, using Youtube to review different make-up that she uses and offering tutorial videos. With the push from her now husband, Sean, they began taking her journey seriously, submitting her content to several large beauty companies annual contests. In 2017, she won every contest she submitted her work to and this opened the door for her to work with companies such as Palmers, Maybeline, Covergirl, MAC Cosmetics, and Elf Cosmetics.

Using her reach on Instagram, where she has over 120,000 followers, she works with many brands to promote their products and allow herself to be a stay at home mom to her two children, working with her husband to create all of the content they use for promotion. She hopes that she can inspire the youth from our city to never give up on their dreams.

*"Seek God first and find your purpose. Don't let anything hold you back and when you find the thing that fulfills you, don't get caught up in the things that don't matter, but chase your dreams."*

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# Faces Of New Bedford #137: Scott Botelho

Meet Scott Botelho, 50-year-old Real Estate Broker Associate and Realtor.



After growing up in the area, Scott began working at Massachusetts Department of Correction in Bridgewater. Knowing that he didn't want to spend the rest of his life as a corrections officer, he started researching the real estate market. His father-in-law Jesse Amorin took him under his wing and taught him the business.

As with any major life decision, Scott carefully mapped out his course as a real estate agent and once his business was established, he left corrections in 2007. He owes all of his success in the industry to his ability to foster and maintain relationships, treating his clients as if they were his family, not letting them sell a house for less than what it's worth or buy a house he didn't feel would put them in a good position.

His passion for the city has driven almost 80 percent of all of his business here, where he is able to help the people of

our city attain the dream of owning their own house. In 2016 he became the #1 RE/MAX agent in Massachusetts and as a result he recently added 2 full time agents to better serve the community.

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## **Faces Of New Bedford #136: Nelly Saraiva**