

# **Edwin Cartagena announces run for Ward 2 City Council seat vacated by Steven Martins**

Edwin Cartagena sits on the board of directors for P.A.C.E, Founder and volunteer President of Non-Profit United New Bedford, and is an active member of the Greater New Bedford Opioid Task Force.

“I came to New Bedford, at a very young age, due to my sister and I being reunited with our biological mother, whose search for sobriety through years of addiction landed all of us in New Bedford. We lived for brief periods in the Moby Dick Motel, County St near Bob & Eileen’s (now Luck 7), Tallman St near P&D, Presidential Heights, Monte’s Park area, and now the Brooklawn Park area. Our family overcame the many obstacles and challenges our community faces today; poverty, addiction, suicide, homelessness, brokenness, and hopelessness.

I believe we need to direct our focus on people, and not because its election season like many do. Focus our attention on all that are struggling to make ends meet, hurting because of an addiction or abuse, and not only help them where they are but empower them with healing which, in turn, will transform them from the inside out. This will start a positive ripple throughout their lives which directly helps their children, their family, our neighborhoods, and our city. I don’t plan on trying to make a difference; I already am. When elected, I will take this life-changing strategy to city hall.

We will work on lowering taxes as well as improving the parking situation plaguing our small businesses on the Ave, among other issues, but we cannot afford to and will not ignore the people that are struggling and dying every day. New Bedford is made up by the diverse people in it, not the

politics that govern it. I'm running for Ward 2 to give all the people a voice and a candidate that has been there right alongside them from even before this election season started and will not leave them once elected or elections are over. I love my city and will keep pushing for a United New Bedford that brings forth the necessary changes that will positively impact our children, our families, our schools, our neighborhoods, our businesses and New Bedford as a city of one."

Edwin Cartagena attended Hayden McFadden, attended and graduated Mt. Pleasant School (currently Carlos Pacheco), attended and graduated Normandin Junior High School, and then attended New Bedford High School graduating from the Evening Extension Program.