

# Top Young Professionals UNDER 40

in Southeastern MA & RI



**Laura Bonetzky-Joseph**  
39 • Managing Director & Founder  
MedSpa New England  
Hingham

Founder of MedSpa New England, Laura Bonetzky-Joseph overcame numerous obstacles including surviving domestic violence to open the business as a health and wellness resource in the community. She actively pursued education in a variety of health modalities including Reiki, Yuen Energetics, laser therapies, and domestic violence obstacles, and facilitates workshops and stress reduction groups. Her volunteer activities include fund-raising for Old Colony Hospice and work assisting survivors of domestic violence. In 2009, she founded a local domestic violence and child abuse support group.



**Candice Cabe**  
30 • Owner/President  
The-Creative Edge

An entrepreneur and marketing professional, Candace Cabe is the president and owner of The-Creative Edge, a marketing and web design firm. A Wareham native, she is also the creative force behind Day2Night, a start-up to make convertible heels. For this venture, Candace has caught the attention of several start-up contests and made the list of top 100 finalists in the MassChallenge competition. She is a certified business coach and has raised more than \$3,000 for cancer research through the Dana Farber Boston Marathon Challenge.



**Jennifer DaPonte**  
33 • Realtor  
Weichert Realtors  
Mel Antonio Group  
New Bedford

A New Bedford area Realtor, Jennifer DaPonte has won numerous awards for her work including being named "Sales Producer of the Year" for Weichert Realtors, Mel Antonio Group for 2008 and 2009 and receiving the "Executive Club Award of Outstanding Sales Performance" with Weichert National for 2008 and 2009. She is a multi-million dollar sales agent and is president of the Sakonnett Bay BNI Chapter. DaPonte is also chair of the Programs Committee for the Greater New Bedford Association of Realtors and is a member of the Westport Business to Business chapter. She volunteers regularly for Salvation Army and is the team captain for the Relay for Life team, "Knock Out Cancer," which has raised over \$80,000 for the American Cancer Society since 2005.



**Odilia DesRoches**  
31 • Pharmacist/Manager  
Walgreens Pharmacy  
New Bedford

Odilia DesRoches obtained her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Rhode Island. She has managed the the Walgreens Pharmacy at the Greater New Bedford Community Health Center for two years, having been with the company for more than a decade after starting there as an intern. Odilia is known for consistently going above and beyond in her care and compassion, taking the time to speak with her customers about their questions and concerns. An avid runner, she recently worked with the Health Center to plan and execute the first annual Bridge to Wellness 5K charitable road race to support community outreach programs.



**Andrew Gallagher**  
34 • Photographer  
Andrew Gallagher Studios  
Fairhaven

Andrew Gallagher has been a professional photographer for approximately 10 years serving commercial clients and arts and design organizations while also working as a photojournalist for the Standard-Times. He recently established Andrew Gallagher Studios and has spent much of his career giving back to the community including donating his services – and hundreds of hours – to United Way of Greater New Bedford, shooting photos of local people for the LIVE UNITED campaign, and photographing the organization's annual Awards Dinner each year.



**Jason Hantman**  
39 • Senior VP / Portfolio Manager  
US Trust Bank of America  
Private Wealth Management

Jason Hantman is a senior vice president and portfolio manager for U.S. Trust where he specializes in managing asset allocation, portfolio construction, and comprehensive investment fulfillment for high net worth individuals, businesses, and non-profits. Jason has been with the company for 16 years. He earned his bachelor's degree from Babson College in finance, investments and quantitative methods and his MBA from Suffolk University. He is a 2007 graduate of Leadership Southcoast, a community leadership program in Southeastern Massachusetts. An avid golfer, he is a member of the Board of Governors of the Country Club of New Bedford.



**Travis Kessock**  
33 • Financial Analyst  
Edward Jones Investment  
Fairhaven

Travis Kessock has been a financial advisor at Edward Jones since 2003 where he is part of a financial philosophy that emphasizes face-to-face interactions with individual investors. His success at the company has included several awards including Customer Excellence and Unsung Hero awards, in addition to being invited to become a limited partner at the private company, a rare honor. Travis is also highly involved in the community, mentoring through the YMCA's Big Sister Big Brother program and contributing to the extensive fund-raising and volunteer efforts of the SouthCoast Business Alliance which recently held its most successful event to date, the Octoberfest, to benefit the Children's Advocacy Center.



**Christian Lafrance**  
39 • VP Restaurant Operations  
Lafrance Hospitality  
Westport

As vice president of restaurant operations for four Lafrance Hospitality sites, Christian Lafrance oversees three busy restaurant/banquet facilities, and participates on the company's Leadership Team with responsibilities for additional sites including the new hotel in New Bedford. Chris is also highly involved in the community, serving as a board director for the Boys & Girls Club of Fall River, the American Heart Association, Junior Achievement and the Fall River Area Chamber of Commerce. He is also a coach for Westport Youth Basketball and is the past president of the Fall River Exchange Club. He and his wife live in Westport with their four children.