

Natascha F. Saunders, M.S., MBA

Certified Professional Career Coach

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An inspirational Certified Career Coach for over 10 years, Facilitator & Social Entrepreneur, **Natascha Saunders** is a life changer. She coaches youth & adults in continuing education, job search strategies, interviewing, resumes, goal-setting, and networking.

In the year 1999, while attending the University of Massachusetts at Amherst she designed her own academic concentration within the Bachelor Degree Interdisciplinary (BDIC) area of study entitled, "Independent Image Consulting". Natascha combined courses from the Isenberg School of Management, School of Public Health & Health Science as well as the Department of Consumer Studies which gave her the solid academic and practical foundation she has today.

Natascha is a former Assistant Director of Undergraduate Career Services at Boston University School of Management where she managed the Undergraduate Employment Report; publish annually at the coordination of 18 team members and 500 graduating students. She was a former Co-op & Employment Specialist at Johnson & Wales University where she co-led employment efforts for over 1600 students within the College of Business. In addition, she administered and graded thesis projects for over 300 seniors per academic year, including, editing over 150 resumes per term & career counseling; while contributing to maintaining the 98% graduating employment rate.

She is a former Assistant Human Resource Manager for Filene's/Macy's where she managed & led over 300 associates in developing optimum selling and exceptional customer service skills. Achieved new hire compliance targets of 100%. She negotiated salaries with new hires comparison to budget; while conducting employee reviews, and successfully hired and trained over 200 associates under her tenure.

In addition, Natascha has worked as a Financial & Operations Associate for A.G.Edwards & Sons Inc. now Wachovia |Wells Fargo handling investment portfolios with assets between 1 – 100 million reporting directly to VP of Investments and the Branch Manager. With accuracy Natascha executed daily wire transfers, processed trades including options and wrote fund tickets both domestic and international, while analyzing bond and cash flow reports in order to accurately and timely advise clients. She successfully was providing support to the VP of Investments by opening over 300 investment advisory accounts including: IRAs, Trusts, 401k, 403b, Money Market Accounts and 529 Plans. In addition, she established strong rapport with vendors such as: American Funds, John Hancock, MFS, BlackRock and Vanguard; never losing sight of her operational duties of monitoring and calculating trade commissions for consultants, as well as helping to recruit consultants.

Natascha also served on the MBA Admissions Committee for Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Sloan School of Management where she reviewed & evaluated applications for admission into MIT Sloan School of Management; analyzed qualifications of prospective students utilizing established University admissions standards; and submitted evaluations and recommendations to the Associate Director of Admissions and Director of Admissions regarding admissibility of applicants.

Throughout her leadership experience Natascha began advising numerous social groups and leading career focus workshops for: 85 Broads, ALPFA, The Links, The Federal Reserve Bank, NBMBA, Delta Sigma Pi and numerous industry associations; including serving as a 'Guest Lecturer on Career Counseling' for Boston College Lynch School of Education.

Natascha currently serves on the Board of Directors for Dimock Community Health Center, Member of the YPN Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts, Adjunct Professional Development & Leadership Faculty for The University of Rhode Island, Leadership Lecturer at Northeastern University, Education Consultant for EnCompass Education, and she spends the bulk of her time as the Founder/CEO of The Youth Career Coach Inc. where the mission is, 'To ensure students are self-aware and market-ready'.

Natascha's speaking engagements and media coverage have included: PWC, KPMG, Federal Reserve Bank, State Street, West Roxbury High School, The Met Schools, Brown University, Harvard University, Simmons College and Roxbury Community College. She has been featured in many media outlets including: ABC 5 City Line, BNN, Cox Cable, NYC Avenue Pink, Scholastic Choices, Bay State Banner, Gen Y Radio, CKNW Canada, Touch 106.1 FM, Fall River Herald, and Metro News. In addition, Working Mother Magazine & Color Magazine USA sharing career tips to parents for their children.

Natascha received a senate citation for the completion of Leadership for a Future Training Program under the Institute for Labor Studies and Research and The National Conference for Community & Justice. She is also, an alum of the Commonwealth Seminar (MassCS) legislative training program held at the Massachusetts State House. She has also served as Miss Black Rhode Island 2006 and 2007 under the Miss Black USA Scholarship Pageant where she served as Goodwill Ambassador to Gambia, West Africa.

Natascha earned an MBA *in Global Business Organizational Leadership* from Johnson & Wales University, an Executive MS *in Leadership* from Northeastern University and a Certificate *in Career Coaching* from The Professional Association of Resume Writers & Career Coaches. Natascha's education also includes: recognition from the FDIC for completing a Money Smart Facilitating Training Program. She is currently pursuing her Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree at Northeastern University with a focus on Organizational Leadership & Communication. In addition, she is part of an Executive Education Program at Harvard University | John F. Kennedy School of Government focusing on Leadership, Organizing and Action.

Natascha was a contributing writer for the book 'Obama & Black Loyalty Vol. 1 Chapter 5: Black Youth & Unemployment'. She was also the 2010 recipient of the Harvard WECAN Woman of the Year Award, recognized in 2011 as a 'Spark & Hustle Daring Doer' by CEO, Tory Johnson, ABC Workplace Correspondent and 2011 Change Agent for Massachusetts Housing and Mass Impact 'Youth Town Hall' Meeting.

Natascha continues to career coach and lead 1000's of career professionals, all over the USA and abroad.

Natascha's motto is: "***BE WHAT IT IS YOU WANT TO ATTRACT!***"