

The Faces of Adult Learners: 25 Years in the Making

Huseyin Senturk

Huseyin and his wife live in Boston's West End.

He was a print journalist in Turkey. In Boston, limited English kept him home watching TV and surfing the Internet.

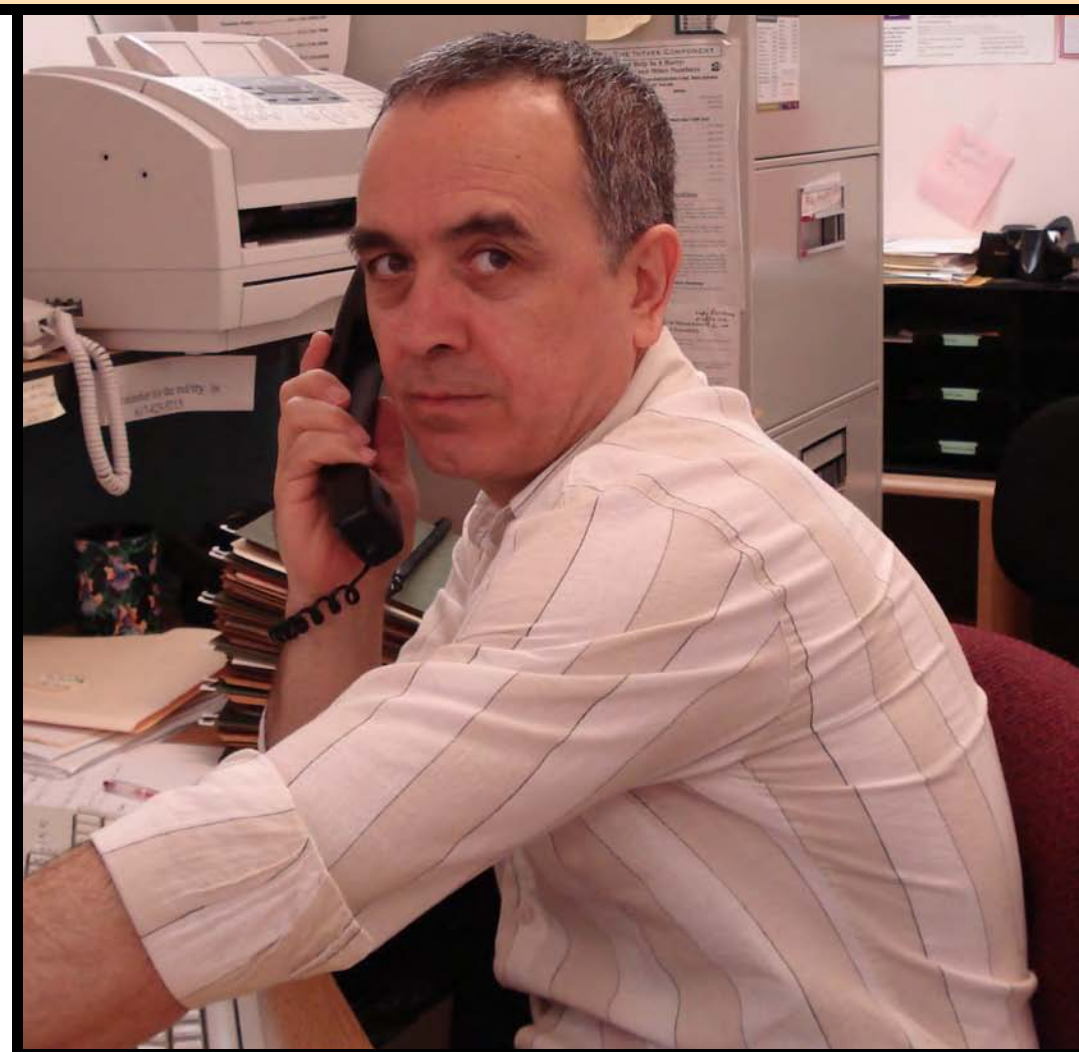
All changed for the better when a Turkish neighbor steered him to the ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center for ESOL. Huseyin successfully completed both intermediate and advance ESOL courses.

Huseyin says "the classes gave me the confidence to move forward with my new life in Boston".

Huseyin is now an invaluable *paid* member of the North End ABCD staff where he:

- welcomes and directs all newcomers;
- helps senior citizens prepare taxes;
- solves transportation issues;
- provides tutoring help in the drop-in computer lab;
- provides technology support;
- photographs all activities and events;
- does all in-house print design (newsletters, certificates, Power Point, and more).

Huseyin is a true role model for other ESOL students and ABCD staff.



Age: 48

Immigrated from Turkey in 2005

Adult Education Program:

ABCD North End/West End
Neighborhood Service Center

Adult Education Coalition:

NE/WE Community Coalition

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Boston Adult Literacy Initiative. (ALI)

What is ALI?

We are Boston adult basic education providers that receive funding from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education or/and the City of Boston.

What do we do?

We provide services that help adult learners reach their educational and career goals as workers, parents, and community members:

- ◆ GED preparation
- ◆ English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- ◆ Adult Basic Education: literacy and numeracy
- ◆ Transition to college and job training programs
- ◆ Adult Diploma

These profiles highlight the accomplishments and challenges of just a few of Boston's 6,500+ enrolled adult learners; another 5,500 are waiting to enroll.

Education: Improving Lives and Creating Opportunities!

For more info: Brunir O. Shackleton, Mayor's Office of Jobs and Community Services, (617) 918-5244 or brunir.shackleton.jcs@cityofboston.gov

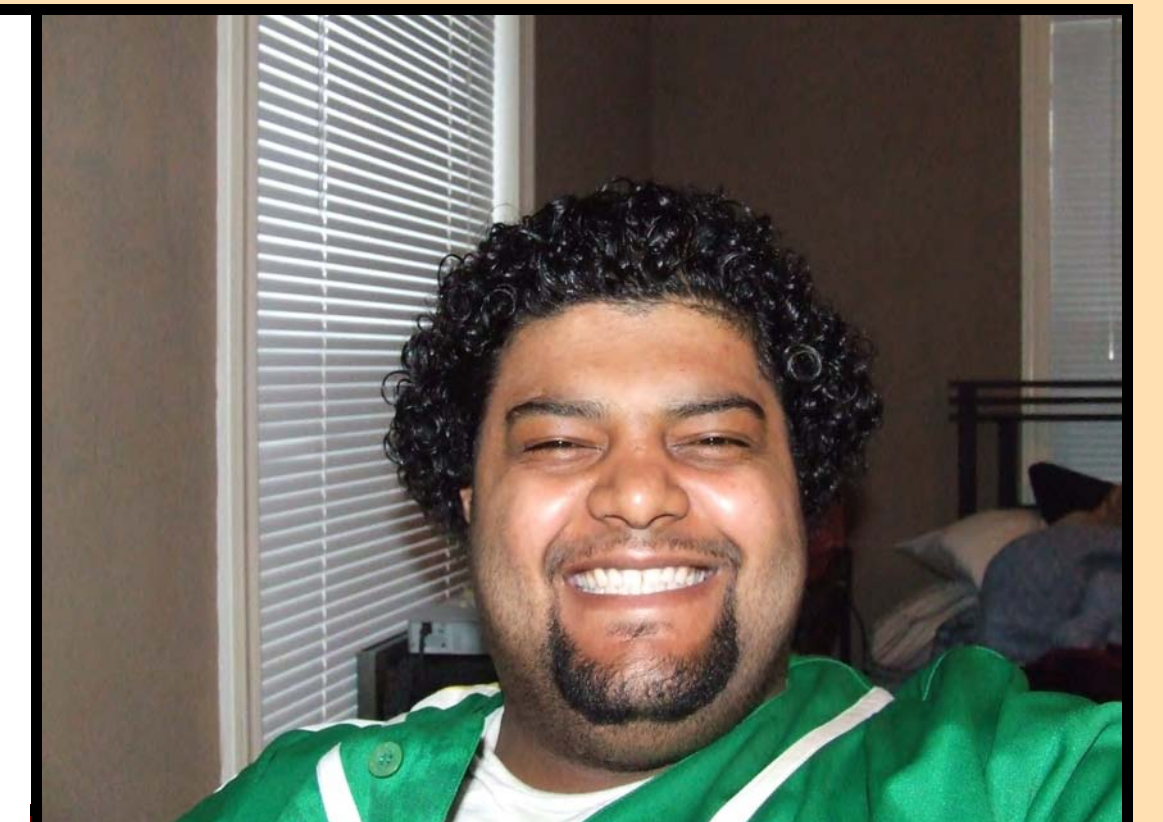
Nuno Pereira

After living with his aunt and attending elementary school in Stoughton, Nuno moved to Boston to live with another aunt. There in Boston, he first attended Tynan elementary school, then Dearborn Middle School, and finally Madison Park High School.

Nuno was expelled from Madison Park High School in 1997. After being expelled, he acquired a job at Burger King, but has since decided that his education should be his top priority. At the Jewish Vocational Service (JVS), he enrolled in the Adult Diploma Program to earn the degree he never finished.

Through JVS, Nuno improved his reading comprehension and math skills. He learned more effective communication as well as how to bring focus to his activities. Nuno was able to pinpoint his weak points and find out what he had been doing wrong so that he could improve himself. Now he puts his education first. His family now looks up to him and his older brother wants to go back to school.

In the future, Nuno plans to be an accountant and own his own business. He would like to thank the teachers and volunteers at JVS who have helped him and have given him a chance to better his future.



Age: 28

Immigrated from Cape Verde in 1990

Adult Education Program:

Jewish Vocational Service

Adult Education Coalition:

Downtown Initiative For Adult Literacy