

# Cohen oversees different court system

Getting kids involved in sports is more than just a game to David Cohen, the new executive director at the **Doc Wayne Athletic League** in Boston.

"There are countless youth that you can lend a hand to and have an impact on their lives. This is what we try to do at Doc Wayne through our therapeutic sports-based curriculum," said Cohen, who has been in the job two months. "I have been deeply involved in sport-based youth development since 2008 and I am passionate about doing what I can for children and adolescents especially those who are in need of a strong support system."

In his role, Cohen will manage the overall operations and growth of Doc Wayne in an effort to enhance training in the curriculum and reach more youth nationally and abroad.

"Doc Wayne has transformed both me as a coach and the youth I work with," said Khalid Charfi, residential supervisor, physical education teacher and Doc Wayne coach. "In 24 seasons with Doc Wayne, I have seen the impact the DtG curriculum can have on residential life, academics, and learning social skills for life."

"Doc Wayne has been developing sports-based stabilization methods for youth who are victims of complex trauma for the past three years," said Founder Susan Wayne. "To ensure that we continuously enhance effectiveness, we require a staff experienced in the use of sports to regulate behavior and emotion in youth with serious emo-



*David Cohen, a former college athlete, reaches at-risk youth through sports.*

tional disorders. David, an innovative and inspiring leader with a background as an athlete and in youth sports, has been a breath of fresh air and brings a trove of fresh ideas for our organization and for the kids we serve."

Cohen spent two years in development at Brooks School and was the assistant coach for the boy's varsity soccer team. He founded Playing It Forward, a nonprofit which provides sports equipment to disadvantaged youth around the world, in 2008 and continues to manage that. He earned a BS from Babson College and an MBA from McCallum Graduate School of Business at Bentley College, and worked in the corporate world and as an entrepreneur from 1995 to 2008.