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Rodney Thomas journey began as a Teacher in Chicago Public Schools where he was honored as Teacher of the Year. Rodney has worked in multiple leadership roles within various industries. He recently served as the Vice President of National Programs at Surge Institute as well as a Senior Associate at the National Equity Project, where he led complex change efforts focused on educational equity. He's worked for various fortune 500 organizations, like Accenture, Motorola, Unilever, and ABN AMRO, focusing on leadership development, organizational design, executive coaching, and change management. Rodney's experience in human centered design, has led him to partner with some of the nations top academic institutions like Harvard, Stanford, and the University of Chicago.

Currently, Rodney works with leaders and institutions across multiple sectors to empower people to generate change and move forward with new approaches that drive impact through his own consulting practice, CenterForward.