



Vera Thomas relocated to Lexington Dec. 29, 2011. She is currently a Training Consultant for Dale Carnegie. Vera's life story directed her towards work with organizations that provided hope and empowerment to people like her to better themselves. It is her goal to help others overcome a circumstance that diminishes and help them to surge ahead with their dreams. It is to that end that Vera, against all odds, completed a degree in psychology from Walsh University in Canton, OH. She graduated "Cum Laude". While at Walsh she was recognized in "Who's Who Among Colleges and Universities" for two consecutive years.

Her work with companies and organizations spurred her on to acquire a master's degree in Organizational Management. Vera's work as a facilitator, trainer spans over more than three decades and includes developing training programs for youth and adults. She was an outplacement training consultant traveling across states to train dislocated workers.

She has been an afterschool provider in Akron Public Schools since 2004 and now is pursuing an "Artist in Residency" and keynote speaker for schools and organizations that want to make a lasting impact on the lives of the children and adults they serve. She has also worked with children and adults in the areas of self-esteem, confidence, goal setting, career life planning, poetry, interpretive dance and drama.

As Projects and Logistics Coordinator for Fame Fathers, a five county fatherhood initiative, Vera spearheaded the process for county-wide mobilization to make systemic changes to address the fatherhood issue in northeastern Ohio. As a result, traditional agencies that were not father friendly now have father advocates housed in their agencies in Summit County. She led the charge to get fathers more involved in their children's education by organizing the Fathers Walk in several counties in Ohio. The effort grew from 500 dads taking children to school and engaging administration to over 6000 fathers and significant males doing the same in 2010. As a result, schools now engage fathers throughout the school year.

She has served as an Executive Director for an agency serving grandparents raising their grandchildren and other kinship guardians.

As a thespian, she has performed social issue plays in schools throughout Ohio; was the lead character for "Fences Between".

She has been an adjunct instructor on a college level

As one of the organizers for the Housing Now March on Washington, participation from her area resembled that of the MLK march and resulted in her being recognized in "Who's Who among American Women" (1989).

She is an alumnus of Leadership Stark and Summit County Ohio and has received awards for her community service.

She has been a radio personality for both gospel and secular programming.

Served as a corresponding reporter for the Canton Repository and have written articles for the Reporter, a black newspaper in Ohio.

As a community leader she has served on several boards. She has coordinated community days, Stop the Violence Rallies, health fairs, healthy men cook offs. She was contracted to coordinate Save the Family celebration, a national initiative, culminating in honoring 60 marriages of 25 years or more.

Hear her story and think about your own. You will find similarities and great distance. This is her journey, think about yours.

Vera is available for companies who want to transform their teams or individuals who want to transform their lives.

## Contact Information

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