René Redwoodis a foremost expert on diversity and inclusion and an advocate for equity. She has a quantifiable record of success as a thought leader, strategist, trainer, and counsel to leaders in government, public sector agencies, policy and civic organizations, and the private sector. René informs the debate on access and equal opportunity while directing initiatives for public, non-profit, and private sector institutions.

Ms. Redwood is the CEO of Redwood Enterprise LLC, a consulting practice that provides data informed strategies to deliver people and process solutions to support the client’s mission. Redwood Enterprise uses a cooperative business model to gain the benefits of scale and scope by leveraging the expertise of collaborative partners to deliver sustainable results. Redwood Enterprise provides services to mitigate barriers to inclusion; foster cultures to enhance performance, belonging, and respectful behaviors in the workplace; improve workforce and customer satisfaction; and promote measures for organizational accountability and societal impact. Redwood Enterprise evaluates corporate and community engagement programs, and promotes practices deemed “best in class” to shift organizational culture and operational climate.

René facilitates conversations on equity and fairness, promotes policies that values the human resource as an asset, and transforms the workplace and communities by building and restoring trust with internal customers and external constituents. She conducts culture assessments; training and leadership development; strategic and implementation plans on racial justice, gender equity, preventing sexual harassment, and the impact of unconscious and systemic bias on individual and institutional success.

René founded Redwood Enterprise, LLC after she was appointed by the US District Court for the Northern District of Georgia as an agent of the Court in the historic discrimination settlement agreement for a Fortune 100 company. She served on the seven-member panel charged with ensuring Coca-Cola’s compliance with the consent decree and oversaw their human capital efforts in partnership with the corporate leadership on policies and practices for North America.

René gained legislative experience as the Staff Assistant for US Senator Christopher Dodd (CT) and then went on to be the Executive Director at Greenberg-Lake: The Analysis Group, Inc. where she managed the overall operations of the influential political consulting and research firm. From there, René was recruited to be the District Offices Director for Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC) where she directed the congressional constituency services and intergovernmental liaison with federal agencies and state government.

Because of her record of success, René was appointed the Executive Director for the Presidential Glass Ceiling Commission, a statutory mandate by the Civil Rights Act of 1991, Title II. While there, René managed the 21-member bipartisan Presidential Commission that was charged with researching and analyzing data on the barriers that impede the advancement of women and minorities to managerial, executive, and leadership positions in the private sector. She managed the Commission to yield unanimous votes for the fact-finding report and recommendations for public policy and the business

case to make full use of the Nation’s human capital. These two seminal reports were published then presented to Congress and the then President. They continue to inform the debate about access and importance of women and racial and ethnic minorities in the workforce and leadership.

Impressed with her work on the Presidential Glass Ceiling Commission, René was appointed as the Special Assistant to then Secretary of Labor, Robert Reich. While there, René promoted key initiatives of the Secretary of Labor through public education and fostered collaboration between the Department of Labor and its stakeholders. René served as a national and international spokesperson addressing all levels of government, nonprofit organizations, academia, and the private sector on the “glass ceiling,” diversity, and affirmative action in the workplace and markets.

René was recruited as the first Executive Director of Americans for a Fair Chance, a consortium of the six most prominent civil rights legal groups, where she was tasked with educating the public about affirmative action and how it benefits the nation as a whole. She facilitated research, strategies, and forums of allies and stakeholders to interrupt the assault on gender and racial equity. She went on to become the Director of Political Operations at the Democratic National Committee (DNC) where she managed capacity building through constituency and cohort networks, Election Day national legal infrastructure, and re-established their campaign training institute.

René Redwood is honored as a *Freedom’s Sister* for "continuing the legacy of African American women for courageous, spirited trailblazing that has helped to shape our country" (by Ford Motor Company Fund and Smithsonian Institute) and received the “Phenomenal Woman, Women-Owned Business Servant Leadership Award” and the “Women of Achievement Award”. She currently chairs the Equality Task Force for a Federal agency. René serves on the Investment Committee for Ms. Foundation for Women; Board Chair Emeritus of NARAL Pro-Choice America; member of Parity Portfolio’s Advisory Committee for Social Impact of Matterhorn Group at Morgan Stanley; a judge for One World Education Ambassador Challenge; the Advisory Board for the WNBA Washington Mystics, and Women in Technology International (WITI); and on the Congressional Black Caucus Scholarship Committee and Small Business Advisory for Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton.

René is a skilled moderator trained at the Research in Values and Attitudes Institute (RIVA), and was a yearlong Fellow “*Leading from the Inside*” for the Rockwood Leadership Institute. She is a Senior Consultant with FranklinCovey and has prepared and delivered diversity and inclusion curriculum at George Washington University Center for Excellence in Public Service.  René earned her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and a BA in History from Tufts University. She is often described as smart, strategic, and energetic, and has been featured in publications such as *Time*, *Black Enterprise, American Editor, Elle,*and *Essence*.