



CAROLINA
for KIBERA

Media Archive

2020

[Rye Barcott and the Five Percent Rule](#)

Early Learning Nation | Mark Swartz | February 2, 2020

“Despite the demands of his job, **Barcott remains an active volunteer with Carolina for Kibera**, the organization he cofounded in Africa. “Kibera was once on the outskirts of Nairobi,” he says. “Now it is near the heart of the city. While infrastructure has improved over the past two decades, the conditions for many are grueling. What is promising is the introduction of low-cost technologies designed for the poor, higher educational access for many, and the rise in local leadership from the community.” He notes that the current and past Members of Parliament representing Kibera have been Kibera-born and college educated; one was even a **Carolina for Kibera** volunteer.

“...Many of life’s most fulfilling moments rarely happen without some degree of pain,” he says, “and the greatest fulfillment happens through helping others. **My co-founder of Carolina for Kibera, the late nurse Tabitha Festo**, always said Sacrifice for Success. It became the motto of the **Tabitha Clinic**.” He mentions that the clinic opened a top-tier in-patient maternity center last year that integrates with malnutrition and family planning programs and delivers life-saving services as well as research that helps other informal settlements around the world.”

[Innovation & Hope: Community-level responses to COVID-19](#)

The University of British Columbia | 2020

“**Hillary Omala (Executive Director), from Carolina for Kibera (CFK)**, a community-led organization that drives positive change and poverty alleviation in the informal settlement of Kibera (Nairobi, Kenya), then raised up the unicity of the challenges experienced by his community members. Indeed, one can ask: how might we regularly hand-wash when water is scarce and attempt to physically distance in an overcrowded area? But, from installing more than 5,600 household hand-washing facilities and introducing a COVID-19 testing centre in the informal settlement to training frontline health volunteers to address the misconceptions about the virus and continuing to deliver its services, **CFK** stands strong. Despite the remaining challenges of regular food provisions and access to income, **Omala** emphasizes the effectiveness of having the community members at the core of identifying their own needs and finding ways to address them.”

[Pregnant during a pandemic in Kenya's biggest slum](#)

Deutsche Welle | April 30, 2020

NARRATOR

“To see how the healthcare facilities are managing the situation, we visited a maternity clinic run by the NGO **Carolina For Kibera**. Aside from the extra precautions things are still normal, but the healthcare workers are worried.”

DENZEL OKARE

“We have seen a number of clients really not accessing the services. But we are doing all we can to ensure that the mothers do not still deliver at home due to the curfew hours that have been imposed by the government. And we have been working closely with the relevant authorities to ensure that this is a success at this particular point and moment.”

[Into Their Own Hands: Kibera, Kenya's Largest Slum, Tames COVID-19](#)

Science Africa | Henry Owino | July 3, 2020

“**Carolina for Kibera (CFK)** through the national government is distributing food and cash transfer to vulnerable families and individuals through a program dubbed ‘Adopt A Family’. According to Beth-Ann Kutchma, **CFK**, Director of Strategic Partnerships, so far approximately 1000 family households and 300 students have been cushioned from hunger and poverty through the program. More are yet to be reached out in the next few months.”

[Common Goal COVID-19 Response Fund: what's happened so far](#)

Common Goal | 2020

“In countries with weaker health systems, outbreaks can have a devastating impact. Investments in primary health care to strengthen access to essential health services is the first line of defence,” said Ann Kungu, an Impact Manager from Kenyan football for good organisation **Carolina For Kibera (CFK)**. The organisation she works for in Kibera, on the outskirts of Nairobi, was among one of the 27 Response Fund’s recipients dedicating support directly to its frontline efforts tackling the virus.

At its **Tabitha Medical Clinic**, financial aid has gone towards **Carolina For Kibera’s** community level coronavirus testing lab. Through this, **CFK** could increase its efforts to purchase and distribute personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline workers, clinical staff, and community health workers. In addition to these efforts, **Carolina For Kibera** has, like many other organisations, been using the additional support to keep its beneficiaries safe.

2019

[From Kibera To Chulaimbo, Four Gender Equality Advocates In Kenya Cheer For Boys Alongside Girls](#)

Global Giving | Isabelle Hall | August 7, 2019

“Gender equality cannot be achieved without changing the perception that gender issues are women’s issues, rather than societal issues. At **Carolina for Kibera**, we utilize male involvement as a strategy to achieve gender equality by mentoring boys from an early age to be gender-sensitive



CAROLINA
for KIBERA

and unlearn negative behaviors that are used to define what manhood is. Empowering girls is not all that is needed. We need to empower boys, too.”

—Ann Kungu, Impact Manager at Carolina for Kibera

2018

[How this UNC grad plans to elect more veterans to Congress](#)

The News & Observer | John Drescher | May 9, 2018

“**Tabitha and I co-founded Carolina for Kibera** (Editor's note: Festo lived in a poor, densely populated area of Nairobi called Kibera). She was my mentor. It was not until she died tragically that I learned of terrifying pain that she endured yet never spoke of. Her strength and humility reminds me of my grandfather and other veterans from the greatest generation. These giants lived their values and never forgot that our purpose on this planet is to serve missions that are greater than ourselves. I try to emulate them, especially when I feel self-pity and am looking for excuses.”

[Kenya's Teenage Pregnancy 'Crisis'](#)

BBC | November 23, 2018

Carolina for Kibera Impact Manager, **Ann Kungu**, speaks about teenage pregnancy in Kenya.

[Playing for Peace](#)

Goal Click

“ For over 17 years, [CFK's] sports program has kept the community together even as the social fabric and peace was threatened by the 2007, 2013, and the 2017 elections. We have been teaching more than just sports. We have been helping to build peace with boys and girls from varying ethnic backgrounds as they learn how to rely on their teammates and develop healthy friendships with one another. Players also improve their self-confidence and learn valuable lessons about leadership, fairness, and gender equality. We are looking forward to using the same platform to reduce drugs and substance abuse, crime prevention and sexual and gender based violence.”

2017

[Angels to Africa via Eden Prairie's Martinka](#)

Southwest News Media | Daniel Huss | August 1, 2017

“While searching for a Plan B, Martinka was told about about **Carolina for Kibera, CFK**, an organization that works with youth living in some of the poorest sections of Kibera. What's more,

CFK has a sports component, soccer component in particular. “Thirty-five hundred boys and 750 girls participate,” said Martinka.

While boys teams were funded, funding for girls teams was limited to one (other girls teams are funded through nearby schools). Martinka’s Plan B was to fund another **CFK** girls team. This would include equipment and uniforms, cleats, too. “In doing this,” he blogged, “I am hoping to alleviate the gender inequality and help provide stability and solidarity.”

2015

[Paying it Forward through Education](#)

Aid for Africa | Nick Johnson | 2015

“Shortly after completing primary school, Humphrey learned about **Carolina for Kibera**—an Aid for Africa member charity based in Kibera that fights abject poverty and helps prevent violence through community-based development. Humphrey volunteered for **Carolina for Kibera’s** Caught Offside Initiative, a program in which mentors help young local athletes tackle the hurdles of education and life...Through sports programs, young women’s empowerment and community development, **Carolina for Kibera** promotes youth leadership and ethnic and gender cooperation. It works to improve basic healthcare, sanitation and education. It saves lives, prevents ethnic and religious violence and creates opportunities in a place that outsiders view as hopeless.”

2013

[Efforts to tackle malnutrition receive boost](#)

Bizcommunity | David Njaaga | July 15, 2013

“The Child Health project is guided by Glenmark's global philosophy of 'Enriching lives to create a Healthier and Happier World.' Glenmark has tied-up with **Carolina for Kibera**, an organisation focused on participatory grassroots development, to implement the project...Glenmark also announced the inauguration of Nutrition Education Centre in Gatwekera village of Kibera formed with an objective of recovering Severe Acute Malnourished (SAM) children and educating the local community about the issue of malnutrition.

Hillary Omala, executive director at Carolina for Kibera described the project as a novel initiative that will increase awareness on malnutrition in the community.”

[Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Announces Launch of its Child Health CSR Programme in Kenya](#)

PR Newswire | July 23, 2013

“Glenmark, the leading research-driven, global, integrated pharmaceutical company has announced the launch of its Child Health Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Programme in Kenya. The occasion was graced by Hon, Kenneth Okoth - Member of Parliament - Kibera Constituency, Jessica Mbochi, Division of Nutrition, Ministry of Health, Government of Kenya, Dr Grace Irimu,



CAROLINA
for KIBERA

Sr. Lecturer, University of Nairobi and Pediatrician, Kenyatta National Hospital along with officials from Glenmark Pharmaceuticals and local grassroots NGO - **Carolina for Kibera.**”

“Through this programme, Glenmark shall endeavour to make a difference in the lives of underprivileged women and children in Kibera area of Nairobi by addressing issues like Malnutrition, Hygiene and Sanitation...For this Project, Glenmark has tied-up with **Carolina for Kibera**, an organization focused on participatory grassroots development. Glenmark also announced the inauguration of Nutrition Education Centre in Gatwekera village of Kibera formed with an objective of recovering Severe Acute Malnourished (SAM) children and educating the local community about the issue of Malnutrition.”

[Fulfilling dreams, one bead at a time](#)

The Daily Illini | Alice Smelyan | September 4, 2013

“With Love, From Kibera was formed last May by Tai, along with University of Chicago Booth School of Business MBA students and “**Carolina for Kibera**,” a nongovernmental organization in Nairobi. Their mission? To link artisans in Kibera with buyers in the United States through e-commerce...After leaving the Marines Corps in April, Tai read **Rye Barcott’s** novel, “It Happened On The Way To War: A Marine’s Path to Peace,” and decided to travel to Kibera.

“I didn’t want to just be the average humanitarian tourist, so I decided to raise some money for medical clinics,” Tai said. In just over a month, he raised \$4,300 for medical supplies to bring to the Tabitha Clinic, run by **Carolina For Kibera, which Barcott founded**. Once he arrived at the clinic, with no medical experience, Tai still didn’t see a way in which he could make a direct difference.

“I walked around slums a lot, building connections, meeting people and one of the first people I met — probably on my second day in Kibera — was a lady named Judy.”

Judy works as a janitor at the **Tabitha Clinic**, but in her off-time, she creates handmade jewelry pieces from little strips of magazine cutouts. Tai was fascinated by Judy’s craft and asked her to teach him how to make the original pieces. After chatting with Judy, Tai said he learned of her dream of providing higher education for her son, and shortly after, he contacted his future classmates at the University of Chicago through the Class of 2015 MBA Facebook page.”

2012

[Block Party, ‘Without a Fight’ Premiere and Megafaun Concert, Nov. 1](#)

UNC Global | October 29, 2012

“Filmmakers followed players from **Carolina for Kibera’s** youth soccer league, providing a glimpse into their lives. Footage of violent clashes fueled by polarizing national presidential

elections is intertwined with profiles of youth from different religious and ethnic backgrounds as they navigate daily life and prepare for the final championship soccer game of the season.

“Without A Fight” is the production of an all-Triangle crew. Director Jason Arthurs and co-director of photography Andrew Johnson are both alumni of the UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Producer Beth-Ann Kutchma is a long-time resident of Durham and member of the Durham-based band, Red Collar.”

[Seattle Documentary Premiere: Without a Fight](#)

“Footage of violent clashes fueled by polarizing national presidential elections is intertwined with profiles of youth from different religious and ethnic backgrounds as they navigate daily life and prepare for the final championship soccer game of the season. The film provides a glimpse often a very positive one into an Africa few have seen. It attempts to break stereotypes associated with people who live in extreme poverty while depicting sports as a tool that could be used to prevent violence among at-risk youth.

Introduction by Without a Fight Producer, Beth-Ann Kutchma and **Carolina for Kibera co-founder, Rye Barcott**

Post-screening Q&A and reception with **CFK-Kenya Executive Director Hillary Omala, CFK Co-Founder Rye Barcott, Producer Beth-Ann Kutchma.**”

2011

[Just back from Kenya](#)

Health Market Innovations | Donika Dimovska | February 28, 2011

On a hill overlooking Kibera, **Tabitha [Medical Clinic]** opened in 2009, using solar power and a rainwater catchment system to power the three-story building. It provides a comprehensive array of primary care services, supported by a fully equipped 24/7 lab, top-notch MRI system, a pharmacy, and a reproductive health clinic... **Tabitha** uses innovative patient tracking software to move patients through the system, from registration in its spacious waiting room, to the consultation that records their health history, to the diagnosis and prescribed treatment. Every patient is given an ID card so **CFK** can track their health history and progress. According to **CFK**, the system has significantly reduced record-keeping error and reduced paperwork processing time.

This year **CFK** is moving beyond its focus on curative care, putting an emphasis on promotive services, especially among the predominantly young population of Kibera. George told us that he sees **CFK** as helping extend opportunities that are otherwise lacking to young people. They aim to “help the youth of Kibera to take on the world.”

[The Big Spill Over ‘Three Cups of Tea’](#)

Wall Street Journal | Cameron McWhirter | April 30, 2011

“Former Marine Capt. **Rye Barcott** heads up a grass-roots nonprofit to help slum dwellers in Kenya. Like other charismatic do-gooders with an interesting story to tell, he has written a memoir



CAROLINA
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to promote his charity and the idea of grass-roots development work. Late last month, he kicked off a 26-city book tour, visiting stores, campuses, businesses and churches as the launch of an ambitious effort to expand the donor base for his group, **Carolina for Kibera**, which runs a health clinic, a soccer program and other community services in Nairobi and is based in Chapel Hill, N.C.”

[When It Comes to Helping Others: Just Do It](#)

The New York Times | Rye Barcott | May 18, 2011

“Two Kenyans and I later co-founded **Carolina For Kibera** to combine more opportunity with talent by investing in local leaders. We referred to our approach as “participatory development.” It’s a concept from anthropology that acknowledges that sustainable change must be driven from within communities. It can’t be imposed from the outside. I found this to be true in Kibera, where our organization now engages more than 50,000 people a year, and also in the Marines, where we continue to wrestle with how to build local capacity during counter-insurgencies.”

[A Devil Dog Finds His Best Angels](#)

Time | Bobby Ghosh | May 23, 2011

“The book (published by Bloomsbury) chronicles the creation of **Carolina for Kibera (CFK)**, a unique nongovernmental organization that is helping the denizens of Kibera to bring development to their home, the giant slum-city in Nairobi. **Barcott** first went to Kibera as a 20-year-old who had decided to join the U.S. Marines: he thought it would be a good way to get first-hand experience of ethnic conflict, something he expected to encounter in uniform. Instead, he found himself drawn into a friendship with several residents, including a nurse and a community organizer: together, they set up **Carolina for Kibera**.”

[Carolina for Kibera celebrates 10 years of collaborative action](#)

Sport and Development | Christ Middleton | July 27, 2011

“This year **Carolina for Kibera (CFK)** turns 10. A reception was organised on 27 July to celebrate this decade of accomplishments, and to launch **CFK** into the next ten years...As part of the reception, the release of co-founder **Rye Barcott’s** book, *It Happened On the Way to War: A Marine’s Path to Peace* was celebrated. Since its release on March 29, **Rye** has been on a 26-city international book tour, culminating with the Kenyan release in July.

“I hope this story will help inspire other people, whether they’re based in Kibera or in North Carolina,” declared the author.

[Community Engagement Inside Kibera](#)

Stanford Social Innovation Review | Regina Ridley | September 1, 2011

“Although **Rye’s** personal story is extraordinary, what attracted me most to **CFK** was its commitment to participatory development—the local community appears to have been the focal

point of all that **CFK** has done from its founding to today, and that is apparent in its mission and operations. I believe, as many do, that one of the reasons so many efforts in global poverty alleviation have failed is that change hasn't come from the community. **CFK** seems to walk the talk, and to put the community front and center in all things...**CFK's entire staff** in Kibera is Kenyan—many are from Kibera—and **CFK's** office is in Kibera. The only full-time staff person in the US is Executive Director Leann Bankoski, who put me in touch with George Kogolla, the executive director in Kenya. George invited me to come to **CFK's** office in Kibera when I visited Nairobi this summer.”

[Carolina for Kibera founder Rye Barcott talks about his nonprofit and his memoir "It Happened On the Way to War"](#)

The Christian Science Monitor | Jina Moore | September 27, 2011

“It was mere chance that former Marine and non-profit founder **Rye Barcott** ended up spending a summer doing research in Kibera, the biggest slum in Nairobi, Kenya. Inspired by a determined woman and a dedicated man who lived and worked in the slum, **Barcott co-founded Carolina for Kibera**, a grassroots non-profit organization that supports locally inspired development solutions – an organization he got off the ground even during tours in Iraq, Bosnia, and the Horn of Africa.”

BARCOTT

“We wrestle with the balance every day in our organizations, and we tilt back and forth between the amount of involvement and influence our small team in the United States has on the organization as it operates on a day to day basis in Kibera. It's challenging because in the US, we're still generating most of the resources for the organizations, so there's a natural power dynamic that comes along with that, and which is exacerbated when you are in extremely resource-deprived settings such as Kibera. What we navigate is a gigantic chasm of cultures and expectations and resources and knowledge, and between the United States, Chapel Hill, and our team immediately on the ground in Kenya.

[Lessons from a Kenyan slum](#)

The Harvard Gazette | Corydon Ireland | October 25, 2011

“It was to this isolated, ignored Kibera that **Rye Barcott, M.B.A./M.P.A.** '09, first traveled in the summer of 2000. He was a 20-year-old student with a smattering of Swahili, in search of both adventure and information for a thesis project at the University of North Carolina. By the next summer, **Barcott** had moved his sights from adventure to empathy. He had acquired a bedrock insight: that among the poor talent is universal, but opportunity is not.

With two Kibera friends — unemployed nurse **Tabitha Atieno Festo** and a former street orphan **Salim Mohamed** — **Barcott founded Carolina for Kibera (CFK)**, a nonprofit that in July celebrated its 10th anniversary of intertribal soccer, female empowerment, trash collection, reproductive health education, and community medicine. (Its free clinic, started with a \$26 investment, now serves 40,000 Kibera residents a year.)”

[Chance Meeting Turns Into Change: How \\$26 is Sometimes All You Need to Make a Difference](#)

ABC News | Mandana Mofidi | December 29, 2011



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“Together, the American Marine [**Rye Barcott**] and the unemployed nurse [**Tabitha Festo**] created a nonprofit called **Carolina for Kibera (CFK)** – which invests in local leaders and provides basic medical care to mothers and children in the slums. **Tabitha** passed away in 2004, but today the **Tabitha Medical Clinic** which started with just \$26, now serves more than 40,000 patients a year.

"Just imagine what you can do with just \$26 in the hands of a remarkable person in a place that is often neglected," **Barcott** said. "Tabitha shows other residents of Kibera that it's possible. You can have all the odds in the world stacked against you. You can be a widow with 3 kids and no job in the world's largest slum, yet you can also make an incredible impact."

2010

[Caroline Sakwa, Deputy Director for Carolina for Kibera \(GFC Grantee Partner\)](#)

YouTube | October 21, 2010

“**Binti Pamoja** is a program for young girls in Kibera, mainly for girls ages 11-18 years and its an information and skills building project that builds the girls in of issues reproductive health, sexuality and finical literacy... One of the main challenge that I’ve faced in working with the girls is changing needs. As girls grow from ages 11 to 18 years they go through a lot of changes in terms of adolescent growth and development. At one point the girl needs information about puberty and the next point she needs information about how to handle a boy in a relationship, the next minute the girl is pregnant so changing needs and addressing those needs is usually a challenge... One success I have seen is the girl’s self-esteem has really been built. The girls can talk confidently in front of people and address people. It doesn’t matter the age, a 13 year old and a 18 year old girl can talk freely their self-esteem has been built their confidence, and also girls have gained a lot of leadership skills and different skills of solving conflicts among themselves as girls”

2009

[CDC + Carolina for Kibera = Tabitha Health Clinic](#)

Center for Strategic & International Studies | August 10, 2009

“Here in Nairobi's Kibera slum, the largest in all of Africa, the **Tabitha Health Clinic** offers a model public-private partnership. The clinic is the product of a collaboration between the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Duke University and the University of North Carolina.

Founded by the late **Tabitha Atieno Festo**, a widowed registered nurse from Kibera, **Tabitha Medical Clinic** is a community-based medical clinic that provides primary healthcare and youth-friendly services to Kibera residents in partnership with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). **Tabitha Clinic** offers healthcare to all residents on a sliding-fee scale. The clinic treats approximately 20,000 patients each year (over 100 daily) and offers basic laboratory,

pharmaceutical, and children's health services. The clinic is one of the only medical facilities in Kibera that staffs two fulltime physicians.”

[Finding Sunshine in the Slum](#)

Harvard Magazine | Elizabeth Gudrais | November-December 2009

“Nowak designed VertiGrow with her classmates Windsor Hanger and Yongtian Tina Tan in the “Idea Translation” course. The course also connected them to **Rye Barcott, M.B.A.-M.P.A.** ’09, who during his own undergraduate days at the University of North Carolina had founded **Carolina for Kibera (CFK)**, a non-governmental organization (NGO) whose credo is, in his words, “The poor have the solutions to the problems they face.” Barcott agreed to connect Nowak with **CFK** social workers who could translate for her and make introductions in the community; with funding from the Harvard Initiative for Global Health, she was on her way.”

2008

[Memorial to honor group fighting poverty in Kenya](#)

The Oklahoman | Jay F. Marks | March 25, 2008

“**Carolina for Kibera Inc.** will receive the award and a \$25,000 honorarium April 19, the 13th anniversary of the bombing of Oklahoma City's Alfred P. Murrah federal building...”

Carolina for Kibera focuses on helping the people of Kibera by giving them the tools and the resources to help themselves. The development of sports programs, centers for girls and medical clinics in one of the poorest districts in Kenya gives the citizens of that community great hope for their future," said Kari Watkins, executive director of the Oklahoma City National Memorial. "The programs train Kenyans to take action to change their own circumstances and make the future of their neighborhoods much brighter for generations to come.”

[Lexington woman strives to make a difference](#)

The Dispatch | Deneesha Edwards | July 23, 2008

“Another trip she took part in was with **Carolina for Kibera**, a non-governmental organization funded by UNC-CH students, which is based in Kibera, a slum of Nairobi, Kenya. While there she started a local library.

“That was one of my most important experiences in college,” Anderson said. Anderson gave credit to her study of anthropology for teaching her how to connect to the communities she helped instead of being an outsider trying to change a community. “I was so connected to my work abroad,” she said. “I thought about how we would go into communities and help them. Are we actually helping them? It gave me a new outlook of how to listen to people and their problems before we decide how to help them.”



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2007

[Carolina for Kibera](#)

UNC Uganda Team | Helen Snow and Deborah Sams | October 23, 2007

“...What struck us as we met with each of these **CFK** leaders was how dedicated, strategic, and caring each of them are in pursuit of their program goals. They each spoke with one voice and a strong unity of purpose. They were all careful to build a solid, sustainable plan for their respective program objectives, always being mindful that the communities of Kibera are the primary stakeholders...The **CFK** organization is a model for many NGO's hoping to have sustained impact. We were touched by their commitment and humbled by their ability to leverage so much action with so few resources. We hope that everyone will investigate further how they can help these inspiring young adults achieve what few others have done.”

2006

[Obama draws cords on slum tour](#)

BBC | August 27, 2006

“Mr. Obama visited micro-finance institutions - which pool members' resources to provide small business loans - a women's self-help group, and **Carolina for Kibera**, a project run by the University of North Carolina to raise awareness about HIV and Aids.”

[LightBox: Expressions of Hope from Young Women in the Kibera Slum of Nairobi](#)

Good Reads | Carol Bellamy | 2006

“LightBox is comprised entirely of photographs taken by **Binti Pamoja** members and essays they have written to accompany those photos. All of the pictures were taken with disposable or simple point-and-shoot cameras during the period of 2002-2004. Most of the photographers had never before held a camera, and were provided less than two hours of basic training. Their expressions offer a candid look at the lives of young women in poverty. LightBox demonstrates the value of empowering a young woman and is a celebration of the victories these young women achieve every day. Their photography and essays display a powerful message: one of struggle, perseverance and hope.”

[ABC World News: Persons of the Year Profile – Rye Barcott](#)

APB Speakers | 2006

ANCHOR: “**Rye Barcott** started his own personal foreign policy in the hope that one American can make a difference. He gave the comforts of his home in North Carolina and moved into the Kibera

slum and formed a charity that turned these shacks into a youth center, and into a medical clinic. Now **Rye Barcott** even has rival gangs cleaning the streets together and playing soccer... What advice does he have for other young Americans?"

BARCOTT "Expose yourself to how the majority of the world lives, and I think it will make you a lot more appreciative of what you've got, and make you a better American and make you a better global citizen."

2005

[Time Global Health Summit, More Heroes](#)

Time | November 3, 2005

"...**CFK's** early success can be contributed to an unwavering commitment to a true model of participatory development where the community we work with identifies their needs, sets their priorities and manages their own budgets. **CFK** is not about one person or one approach but is focused on ground up development, principle leadership, creative solutions with an eye towards sustainability and the basic understanding and respect that the residents of Kibera possess the motivation and ingenuity to solve their own problems. As outsiders we can help by providing desperately needed resources, skilled development, training, networking, oversight but ultimately solutions to problems involving poverty are only possible if those affected by it drive development. There is a general need to view economic and social change in terms of empowerment of destitute but capable people who want to help themselves and their communities..."