Rye Barcott
Social Entrepreneur & Veteran

Rye Barcott is a veteran and social entrepreneur. While serving as a U.S. Marine, he co-founded the non-governmental organization Carolina For Kibera, which uses a unique model of participatory development to break cycles of violence and extreme poverty. His book, *It Happened on the Way to War*, was named one of the best non-fiction titles of the year by Reader’s Digest and acclaimed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu as “tremendous,” and Bono as “a wild ride of a book.”

Barcott learned the art of public speaking from his father, a Marine Vietnam veteran and teacher. A TED Conferences Fellow, he has delivered presentations in venues ranging from the Gates Foundation, the British Royal Society of Arts, Partners in Health, and the Clinton Global Initiative to corporations and industry associations including Best Buy, JP Morgan, Target, Amazon, the Mobile Marketing Association, NAFSA, the World Economic Forum, and the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists.

Through his narrative, accompanied by illustrative media, Barcott shows how small groups of committed people from vastly different backgrounds can unite and defy the odds. His engaging presentations weave together themes of empowerment, personal discovery, and risk taking. He brings to life first hand examples of 21st century leadership that will inspire and inform audiences working in their own ways to make an impact and get stuff done.

![Image of Rye Barcott with a child in a poor neighborhood]