WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT

SIDEKICK MANIFESTO

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS...

A COMPLEX AND COSTLY PROCESS OF COLLECTIVE ACTION
Community members with diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and capabilities must collaborate and transform themselves into a singular and powerful voice of change.

A LONG-TERM PROCESS
It is a struggle that takes decades.

LOCAL LEADERS WITH LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL PROBLEMS
Will end poverty. We will not.

WE ARE ONLY VISITORS WHO DO NOT SHARE THEIR HISTORY
Who do not share their culture who do not pay their taxes who do not vote in their elections who are only engaged for short durations of time who have never ended our own poverty

IN THE STORY OF POVERTY’S END, WE CANNOT BE HEROES.

We are sidekicks!

TAKE THE SIDEKICK PLEDGE

I WILL RIDE IN THE SIDEKICK
I will not lead. I will listen as those already doing the difficult work of building a better future for themselves, their families, and their communities define and determine how to end poverty.

I WILL QUESTION THE UTILITY OF MY PRIVILEGE BAND.
Technology and gadgets are helpful (sometimes). But they do not address the root causes of poverty. Poverty is about power and politics.

I WILL WELCOME MY SIDEKICK SLAPS.
I will make mistakes. And when I do I will take responsibility for my mistakes and act differently moving forward.

I WILL EXPLORE MY DARK SIDE.
“Do I want poverty to end? Who would I be without it?” What would I do if my politics and consumption patterns perpetuate poverty? Am I complicit in maintaining the status quo?

I WILL SLOW DOWN.
I will read “To hell with good intentions” again and again. Politicians, celebrities, and politicians will ask me to be persistent. I will read “To hell with good intentions” again and again. Politicians, celebrities, and politicians will ask me to be persistent.

I WILL HANG UP MY CAPE.
In my search for meaning and significance, we must change and activate my own agency before trying to change another’s material poverty — which is usually a matter of power.