



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## **COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL SPONSORS NASCAR NATIONWIDE SERIES DRIVER, BLAKE KOCH IN NATIONALLY TELEVISED EVENT**

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (July 3, 2013) – Compassion International has once again partnered with NASCAR Nationwide Series driver, Blake Koch in a nationally televised event. Thanks to a generous contribution from an anonymous donor, Compassion will be the primary sponsor of Koch's No. 00 Toyota Camry in this Friday's Subway Firecracker 250 at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla.

"I'm proud to be partnering with Compassion International for this race," said Koch. "It's an honor to be racing on behalf of kids living in poverty who need someone to speak into their lives. Through Compassion's program, boys and girls around the world are given a future and a hope. Lives are saved. Stories are changed. I'll get behind the steering wheel any day of the week for those kinds of results."

Compassion International connects sponsors with children living in the poorest countries around the world. The program focuses on the physical, social, emotional and spiritual needs of children caught in the grip of poverty. Recent [independent research](#) shows Compassion's program has a significant impact on a child's education, future employment and leadership potential.

Koch's goal is to get 2,400 children sponsored through his partnership with Compassion. He recently returned from a trip to Guatemala with Compassion International where he was able to meet his sponsored child, Miguel.

"Meeting Miguel was life-changing," said Koch. "You hear about poverty around the world, but when you put a name and a face to it, it becomes even more real. I've been so blessed in my life and to know that I can pass that blessing on to a little boy who needs me as his sponsor is powerful."

The NASCAR Nationwide Series Subway Firecracker 250 takes place this Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm EST at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla. For tickets, go to [www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com](http://www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com). The event will also be televised nationally on ESPN. To schedule media appearances or interviews with Blake Koch, please contact Tim Glenn at 719-272-5377 or email him at [tglenn@us.ci.org](mailto:tglenn@us.ci.org).

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### About Compassion International

Compassion International is the world's leading authority in child sponsorship. Compassion

revolutionized the fight against global poverty by equipping the Church to develop children out of poverty to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults. It is the only child sponsorship program to be validated through independent, empirical research. Today, Compassion partners with more than 6,000 Christian churches in 26 countries to release more than 1.4 million babies, children and students from poverty in Jesus' name. Compassion has been awarded the highest rating for financial stewardship and transparency for 12 consecutive years by Charity Navigator, America's largest charity evaluator. For more information on the ministry, visit [compassion.com](http://compassion.com) or follow on twitter at @compassion.