



Seattle Auto Dealer Becomes International Humanitarian

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Look on the back of a Volkswagen in the Seattle area and you may see a “Campbell/Nelson” license plate frame. They’re everywhere. For nearly 50 years, it’s been an icon of auto sales on Highway 99.

One of the main auto gurus behind it all has a new passion. For the last couple of weeks, Kurt Campbell has gone from being an auto service expert, to a humanitarian. Kurt’s helped out in what’s likely the biggest crisis on the planet.

“I cannot begin to count how many hands I held,” Kurt wrote on his blog. “But I can say that the power of touch backed by a caring heart has the ability to bring healing to the soul.”

Kurt has supported Seattle-based humanitarian organization World Concern for many years, but this is the closest he has come to seeing a crisis. World Concern has access to thousands of Sri Lankan civilians who have been wounded or traumatized by the brutal end to a 25-year-long civil war. The Christian non-profit has provided emergency assistance for 23,000 people so far, including food and clothing.

About 300,000 people are currently in displaced person camps, and will be there for an indefinite amount of time. Kurt saw some of the toughest conditions, as he did what he could to be a comfort for people who have lost everything.

He met boys and girls with missing fingers, and missing parents. They had a dazed look and could not smile.

“I cannot begin to tell you how desperately I wanted to sweep this girl and her brother off the bed and somehow fix the terrible injustices they have faced,” Kurt wrote.

For Kurt, the journey was a check-up on an ongoing investment he has made through World Concern in the lives of those who have been innocent victims in the war. He wants other people to know the reality of what is happening in Sri Lanka now, a country far away, but a place where civilians still suffer – and need further aid.

“I can only hope God will use me and many others to bring healing to the people of Sri Lanka,” Kurt wrote.

Contact: Derek Sciba, World Concern Communications, dereks@worldconcern.org 206-713-5564 mobile

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