



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

Bob Taft, Governor
Thomas Stickrath, Director

Central Office
51 N. High Street, Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43215

May 8, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure for me to have the opportunity to write this letter of support for Kairos Prison Ministry. I worked for the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for 25 years. For 17 of those years, I served in the position of Warden at two female and one male prison. With a professional background in Social Work, I always approached my job with the sincere belief that people can change and this it is up to the corrections profession to offer offenders many opportunities for self improvement. I have been an advocate for a myriad of rehabilitative programming over the years.

In 1993, I was introduced to Kairos Prison Ministry while I was the Warden at the Ohio Reformatory for Women. I was impressed with the ministry's ability to recruit and train large teams of volunteers to provide a three and one half day retreat for 42 offenders. What I found remarkable is that the volunteers continued to come to prison for prayer and share groups, monthly reunions, and then hold retreats every six months for 42 new offenders. This ministry is unique in that the volunteers keep coming back and it is through these relationships that broken lives are healed and restored.

In 1996, I was assigned to the Marion Correctional Institution as Warden. This institution had a history of many challenging management issues. I immediately called the Kairos community for assistance and in the spring of 1997, MCI Kairos #1 was held.

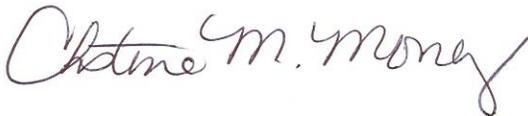
Over the years as the community of faith expanded and Kairos Outside and Kairos Torch ministries were added, the entire culture of the prison changed. Inmate rule violations, violence, drug abuse, and grievances all dropped significantly. Inmates who had been very disruptive and negative became positive leaders and role models and touched many lives. Human suffering was truly relieved.

I have had the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors for Kairos Prison Ministry for nine years. I continue to support rehabilitative programming for offenders. It has been my experience that the most dramatic and long lasting change occurs when offenders develop a relationship with God. This happens through volunteers whose unconditional love and acceptance softens the most hardened offenders.

Six months ago, I accepted a position with the Ohio Department of Youth Services. In my new position, I am responsible for the oversight of Reentry Services which includes the Office of Faith-based Initiatives. I have asked Kairos Prison Ministry to bring Torch, the ministry that serves incarcerated youth to Ohio. Of course, they have already responded to come to serve society's most broken.

Since my involvement with Kairos Prison Ministry, I have witnessed countless miracles in offender's lives, as well as, their families. I have seen Kairos lay the groundwork for other ministries that have helped transform a prison. If you are in a position to support this ministry, I would ask that you consider what you could do. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine M. Money". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Christine M. Money, Special Assistant to the Director
Ohio Department of Youth Services

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