

Kairos E-News #19 - Current News for Kairos Volunteers - 4/1/13

Spring – A Fresh Start (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) - As we enter into the spring time we know it is a time of renewal. The trees are budding, the grass turning green, and the plants are peeking from the ground. At Kairos, we look ahead just a few weeks and note that numerous Kairos Weekends are taking place in roughly 6 weeks. Volunteers have been busy planning for the spring (April/May) Weekend cycle. Let's all join together in prayer for these Weekends. In addition, Kairos is planning on numerous new starts in 2013 – Kairos Outside 3; Kairos Inside Women 2; Kairos Inside Men 5; and Kairos Torch 18. These starts are new opportunities to reach the incarcerated and the families in new locations around the world. It's a busy time for everyone involved in Kairos – from the volunteers on the Weekends to the support people enabling the work behind the scenes to the leaders at all levels of Weekends, Advisory Councils, Areas, States, and International. Let's join together as one in prayer for the work God is allowing us to do as Kairos!

Spring 2013 Newsletter - The latest Kairos Prison Ministry Newsletter is posted on the MyKairos.org website. Look under Newsroom.

Office Relocation Study (Jim Hankins, Chairman, KPMI Board of Directors) - Due to an expensive lease, inadequate working conditions, and declining neighborhood, the Board of Directors decided at the last Summer Meeting to consider alternative working requirements and location for the International Office. An ad hoc committee was formed to consider future needs for space, staffing, and environment. To determine if the office should remain in Orlando or move to another city an exhaustive study was made of possible locations. It was concluded that there was not sufficient or compelling reason to move. We all felt that when God doesn't say move, you should remain where you are and continue doing what He has already told us to do. The International Office for KPMI will remain in Orlando, however the committee, along with the Executive Director will be engaged in a search for other leasing opportunities or possible property to purchase in the area. This is an exciting opportunity to be good stewards, improve working conditions for the staff, and to plan for the future of Kairos. Please be in prayer as this committee continues to follow God's lead concerning these matters.

Kairos Resumes in Honduras (Mario Palma, Chair BOD Honduras) - This past January we had the #5 Kairos for women, which was the greatest accomplishment we have had after two years of inactivity during which we only had failures. But through the mercy of our Father and the actions of Wayne Park from Colorado, since the month of November 2012 we began to have achievements in Kairos Honduras. We have formed a small ecumenical group that has given themselves totally to the Ministry. For now, the activities we have is the follow up that we give the Residents once a month. The costs are being covered by events we have and our own donations. Unfortunately for Kairos #5 we did not receive even Agape from outside Honduras. We look forward to publicizing our next Weekend better and ask that everyone send us Agape and prayer pledges. You can send it to me at Mario Palma palmamario53@yahoo.es

From Prisoner to Prison Chaplain (submitted by Corrairie Sopru, Australia) "I came to Christ in jail after all my closest friends had overdosed or committed suicide," Albert Patrizi says, "I was in a fairly dark place. I'd been a drug addict and criminal up to that point, and I just sort of said, 'Okay God, I've done it my way all my life – I'll give you a go.'" Since that time, Albert has gone from strength to strength. He was greatly assisted by the Kairos program – both inside and outside the walls of the prison – and eventually recognized a call to enter into ministry. Albert has been volunteering at Yatala Prison since completing a Supervised Field Education placement in 2012. Having also completed his theological studies at Uniting College last year, Albert was presented to be affirmed for Minister of Deacon at the November 2012 Presbytery and Synod Meeting, Albert now feels called to

move into prison chaplaincy full-time. “Many prisoners don’t have consistency in their lives,” Albert comments. “While programs run through Kairos and other groups provide important services, they are not always able to provide regularity. The times volunteers are able to come to prison may vary, and the people who come to see them may be different each time.” “By going into a placement as a chaplain in prisons like Yatala and Mobilong, I would be able to more readily build rapport,” Albert continues. “ Things in prisons often escalate quickly – I could be there for these people in their times of need and offer hope when they have hit rock bottom.” The unique position that Albert holds, having experienced the prison system from the inside, makes him an ideal candidate for the role of prison chaplain. “Guys listen to what I have to say. They know that I understand where they are coming from and so are more receptive to hearing what I have to communicate.”

AKT Funding Procedure (Bill Rushing, KPMI Men's Ministry Coordinator) - AKT expenses have been a point of discussion for the last several years. The International Office is seeking a sound solution that helps all of us while compiling with current U.S. tax laws. Here are some simple principles we will be following:

1. All AKTs are free to any and all attendees.
2. However, paying the expenses of an attendee for AKT is borne by the AC, Area, or State by having the appropriate funding from the AC, Area, or State issued and sent to the Host State through the Training Coordinator in charge of the AKT.
3. The AC, Area, or State should be budgeting for the AKT expenses deemed necessary for the Weekend leaders or others who want to attend.
4. The AC, Area, or State should encourage its volunteers who want to pay for their AKT expenses to instead make a donation to his/her local AC/Area/State to help build the budget to allow for more volunteers to attend trainings like AKT. The bonus to following this procedure is that the volunteer’s donation to his/her local AC/Area/State is considered a tax deductible gift to Kairos. If a volunteer personally pays his/her expenses directly to an AKT out of pocket, it is not a tax deductible gift to Kairos.

If you have any further questions about this, please go to the mykairos.org website and download and read the “Principle Statements Regarding AKT Expenses” in full detail.

2013 Summer Conference (Ann Kreller, KPMI Exec Administrative Assistant) - Mark your calendars: Kairos Prison Ministry International 2013 Summer Conference will be held in Norman, Oklahoma, July 30 - August 3, 2013 at the NCED Conference Center and Hotel: <http://cc.nced.com/>. More details will be available on the www.MyKairos.org website in the near future.

2014 Kairos Cruise? - Florida Area 4 has organized a special rate aboard Royal Caribbean’s “**Enchantment of the Seas**” departing from Port Canaveral, FL on January 6, 2014, for a 4 Night Bahamas Cruise. Deposits are due April 6, 2013. More information can be downloaded from <http://www.mykairos.org/fundraising1.html>

Traveling to Mississippi? Like to Golf? (Gennia Varnado, Kairos of Mississippi) - Kairos of Mississippi announces the 1st Annual Benefit Golf Tournament April 26, 2013 at the Hinds Community College’s Eagles Ridge Golf Course, Raymond, MS. Start time 12:00 noon. The cost is \$75.00 per player. This benefit will support all Mississippi Kairos ministries. If interested in participating, contact Gennia Varnado, Tournament Chair 601-896-6543 or genniav@windstream.net by April 19, 2013.

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The IC Communications Improvement Ad-hoc Committee