



Kairos Prison Ministry International

Vision

*A Community Spiritually Freed from the Effects of Imprisonment
Reaching all Impacted by Incarceration, Through the Love, Hope,
and Faith Found in Jesus Christ.*

Mission

*The Mission of the Kairos Prison Ministry is to share the transforming
love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and
lives of incarcerated men, women and youth, as well as
their families, to become loving and productive citizens of their communities.*

KAIROS OVERVIEW

Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. (Kairos) is a Christian faith based ministry which addresses the spiritual needs of incarcerated men, women, youth, and their families. By sharing the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ, Kairos hopes to change hearts, transform lives and impact the world. Kairos sprang from the Cursillo movement and is supported by volunteers from the 4th Day movements such as Cursillo, National Episcopal Cursillo, Presbyterian Cursillo, Lutheran Via de Cristo, The Upper Room's Walk To Emmaus, and independently ecumenical Tres Dias as well as volunteers from independent and non-denominational churches. As a ministry, Kairos embraces a diverse group of volunteers working together to fulfill Christ's call to action in Matthew 25:36.

Kairos is a ministry of the church ... a ministry of the apostles whom Jesus, the Christ, has called into community and sent forth into the environment of the correctional institution. Kairos has been called the best example of the early church in existence today.

The Kairos program incorporates curriculum designed to build and encourage pro-social character and behavior. Society spends over \$60 billion/yr. to keep more than 2.1 million inmates incarcerated men and women with nearly 650,000 people released annually, whereas the Kairos program is offered at no cost to State and Federal Institutions. It's been said that it cost the government \$1 million to keep "me" locked up and a \$100 program from Kairos set "me" free.

Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. is a 501(C)(3) not-for-profit corporation chartered in the State of Florida.

The word, Kairos, is a Greek word meaning in God's Special Time or in the Fullness of Time indicating an opportunity for our participants and guests to re-consider their life choices - as hearts are changed, inmates begin to take responsibility for their actions - it's like a front row seat at a miracle - transforming lives and impacting the world.

Kairos Prison Ministry works in 35 U.S. states and nine international countries today in a total of 444 locations for the Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside and Kairos Torch programs. In 2013, Oregon and Wisconsin began operations. In 2014, Kentucky will begin operations as the 35th state with Kairos. Other states are being evaluated as opportunities arise.

The growth opportunities are abundant. Our core growth opportunities for Kairos Inside (men and women) are in states we currently operating where the Department of Corrections leaders are asking us to do more. For example: Texas has been challenged to grow from 41 Correctional Institutions to 80 by the State Chaplaincy. Ohio has been challenged to grow to every Correctional Institution in the state and we are currently in roughly half of the facilities. Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Delaware, Kansas, Oklahoma, and many other states have growth opportunities.

In addition, Kairos Torch for youth can grow within State Facilities for youth and also adult prisons where youth are incarcerated. Kairos Torch is being accepted as a behavior modification program due to the 1:1 mentoring aspect of the program.

KAIROS BEGINNINGS

The original Kairos Founders, lovingly known as the “Nine Old Men”, developed an appropriate prison version of the 4th Day program. Kairos program was approved by the Catholic Cursillo Secretariat, Presbyterian Church, Episcopal Church, Lutheran Church, and United Methodist Church.

Inspired by a Cursillo Weekend held in an Iowa correctional institution, the Ministry began in a Florida prison in 1976. In 1979, the name “Kairos” was adopted and the Ministry became an independent non-profit Christian Ministry organization. The first program was Kairos Inside.

Kairos Prison Ministry International is active in nine international countries - Australia, Canada, Peru, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and 35 states within the U.S. Each year, approximately 25,000 men, women, and youth are introduced to a Kairos program each year, through roughly 30,000 active volunteers.

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY ORGANIZATION

There is only one Kairos -- it is Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. with three core programs: Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, and Kairos Torch.

The Ministry is guided by a Board of Directors. The Executive Director, as the Chief Executive Officer, leads the operations and strategy of the ministry. The International Headquarters is located in DeBary, FL, where the staff of approximately ten people is located.

In states or countries where Kairos is active, the Ministry branches are known as “State Chapter Committee or International Affiliates. Chapters operate under the authority of the Board of Directors and are comprised of volunteers elected from local Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, and Kairos Torch Advisory Councils.

Each State Chapter Committee and International Affiliate that is certified to administer the Kairos Program is required to follow the policies and guidelines established by the Board of Directors. The Board is the final human authority for the Ministry, while Jesus Christ is our true leader and authority.

Approximately 30,000 active volunteers are working within this structure to carry out the ministry.

KAIROS PROGRAMS

Kairos Prison Ministry International has three core programs that address the mission of the Ministry:

Kairos Inside

The Kairos Inside program strategy brings positive and negative leaders of the institution together for a 3½-day Weekend of carefully coordinated talks, discussions, chapel meditations, and music led by a same-gender team of volunteers. The Kairos program concept is to build the Christian community inside the institution where the Kairos Community prays and fellowships together on a regular basis. This is called “Prayer-and-Share” Groups and meets weekly, also each month the free-world Kairos community returns for a “Reunion” of the entire Kairos community.



Kairos Outside

Kairos Outside brings Christ’s hope into the darkness of a hopeless woman’s life affected by the incarceration of a relative or friend. In a 2 - 1/2 day retreat setting, women can openly and confidentially share. Talks and meditations are designed to address the pain of enduring separation from the one inside and the judgment of others from their community. Through respect, love and warmth that they feel by the Christian volunteers, the walls built for their protection can begin to come down. The Continuing Ministry of Reunions and SWAP (Share, Witness, Action, Prayer) groups allow the women to grow in their Christian faith and become active members of the Kairos Outside community.



Kairos Torch

Kairos Torch goals are accomplished through the vehicle of a Weekend Christian retreat followed by a continuing ministry that includes weekly one-on-one mentoring of the youth by Kairos volunteers and monthly group reunions with the Kairos community. Participants need someplace where they can be themselves and are accepted. Kairos Torch shows participants it is safe to make friends, the importance of positive support groups, as well as how to form groups themselves. Groups (as opposed to gangs) give the participants a viable option by opening their lives up to a variety of meaningful opportunities.