



California City Correctional Facility

# Kairos, Prison Ministry, At California City

Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. (Kairos) is a lay-led, interdenominational Christian ministry in which men and women volunteers bring Christ's love and forgiveness to prisoners and their families.. The Kairos programs take the participants on a journey that demonstrates the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. We are a 501(c)(3) Non profit and member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability(ECFA).

The programs involve a structured model that includes a weekend experience, followed by one day monthly reunions.

### **Our Mission:**

Kairos Inside is a Christ centered ministry whose mission is to develop a Christian community inside prisons. We do this by helping the residents(prisoners) build prayer and share groups as a way of maintaining their Christian Walk. A unique aspect of our program is we commit ourselves to visit the institution on a monthly basis for accountability- support and prayer.

# The Program and Structure:

The Kairos Inside program is a structured model that starts with a weekend experience typically runs Thursday through Sunday followed by one day monthly reunions. The program is administered at California City Men'sCorrectional Facility.

# The Weekend is based on:

- A series of talks,
- Discussions,
- Chapel meditations, and
- Creating a Christian community.

# **Prayer and Share Groups:**

During the weekend experience, the residents receive instructions on how to build small prayer and share groups that meet weekly for study, prayer and fellowship. This is our key building block for residents for nurturing each other in their spiritual growth and holding each other accountable in their faith walk.

## **Monthly Reunions:**

These monthly visits are structured in a way that help residents sustain and maintain their Small Prayer and Share Groups.

#### Our Goal:

The ultimate goal of Kairos Inside is to build a Christian community inside the prison walls to pray and fellowship together on a weekly basis by nurturing the residents' faith walk and providing accountability to each other.. This is the heart of Kairos!

The fact that we return again and again to each prison and the fact we are ecumenical in nature bringing the message of Christ's love and forgiveness is what distinguishes Kairos from other prison ministries. It is this message of Christ's love and forgiveness that unites our diverse ministry. It can be very challenging to maintain a Christian lifestyle in prison, and without our follow up support, the efforts of the 3 ½ day retreat would quickly be lost to the prison environment

# Why We Need Your Help:

The year 2020 was a difficult year for our men's prison ministry at California City Correctional Facility. The challenges how we stay engaged with the community inside the prison walls we expect will continue well into our current year and possibly beyond. Because 90% of our financial support comes directly from our volunteers and because we have not been able to visit the residents at the California City correctional Facility our financial resources have suffered greatly. During this time we have taken the opportunity to upgrade the materials we use as well as the maintenance for our trailer we use to transport materials and snacks paper supplies etc. Additionally, we need to build up our scholarship funds for volunteers that cannot participate for lack of funds. Each volunteer will typically expense approximately \$400 for each three day weekend. We do not turn down volunteers for lack of funds. We welcome and encourage new volunteers to participate in our life changing ecumenical ministry.

## **How You Can Help Us:**

- 1. **Pray** for our ministry
- 2. Volunteer: Contact Rick Bagwill at: rickbagwill@verizon.net
- 3. **Donate:** www.kairosofcalifornia.org or www.kairosprisonministry.org

Note: Select "California City" on state web page

If using the international site: Select "California" and under in Memory of: type "For California City Prison"

For all who have been afflicted by the pandemic or have experienced this in a more personal way, we join with you in your suffering and prayers. We pray for God's Peace and grace be upon you.

Fund Raising Chair for California City Kairos Prison Ministries, Emanuel (Manny) Valdez