

Kairos Institutional Memorandum of Understanding

INSTITUTION:

KAIROS STATE CHAPTER:

1. Note: Kairos is a prison ministry which is designed to be delivered in any maximum or medium prison in the country without any change in format or substantive change in procedure. It is operating very successfully in prisons across the nation and internationally with long term, stable populations ranging from federal to state institutions, from men's prisons to women's prisons to coed prisons (though the short course in Christianity which launches the ministry is never presented as a coed experience). The following stipulations are basic to this ministry and have been approved by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The senior chaplain of the institution is encouraged to attend a similar 3.5-day short course in Christianity such as Emmaus, Cursillo, Tres Dias, or Via de Cristo before the Kairos ministry is launched in the institution.
2. Kairos will be allowed to conduct a minimum of one and a maximum of three 3.5-day SHORT COURSE programs in the host institution annually. A separate event at a separate time could be held at the different units within the same institution. As a part of one institution, each of these could have up to two short weekend events annually.
3. The fewest number of volunteers needed to conduct a short course is approximately twenty volunteers (three tables). Where conditions at the institution permit and sufficient staffing allows the warden may authorize up to forty-five volunteers (inside team) for the short weekend. Teams of volunteers for classes of up to 42 inmates will conduct the short course weekend. The inside team will be allowed time on Thursday to set-up and the introduction of the inmates will begin at approximately 4:45 p.m. on Thursday and the program will continue through 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. Inmates attending the weekend will be released to the Chaplain by 8:00 a.m. each morning (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and permitted to remain with the Kairos team until at least 7:45 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 6:00 p.m. Sunday. Thursday hours will be approximately 4:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.
4. A single event consisting of a 6-7 hour block of time called an INSTRUCTIONAL REUNION will be conducted within two weeks after each short course or as soon as the reunion can be appropriately accommodated in the institutional schedule. It will be open to those inmates who attended the short course immediately preceding it. A team of approximately 25 volunteers will be admitted to hold the Reunion. The volunteers will be selected out of the original group mentioned in #3. above.
5. A one day inmates' retreat will be allowed approximately three months after each weekend, running 8:00 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. Saturday. Where conditions at the institution permit and sufficient staffing allows the warden may authorize two days for this renewal event. A team ratio of one volunteer for each five inmates present, plus two other volunteers, will be allowed for the retreat. The team will be drawn from all active Kairos Volunteers. Only inmates in the institution who have completed a Kairos short course will be permitted to attend. Scheduling and the number of inmates allowed to participate are limited by time,

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staff and space availability within the overall structure of the Religious Program Schedule of Activities.

6. All inmates who have attended a weekend and their guests within the institution will be permitted to attend a 2-3 hour Kairos Monthly Reunion in the institution. The total number of non-Kairos graduates at the Monthly Reunion should be less than 1/2 of the Kairos graduates attending. That reunion day and time would remain the same each month. A group of approximately 25 cleared (badged)volunteers is permitted to attend the monthly Kairos Reunions. Inmates who have attended a Kairos weekend will be permitted to meet on a weekly basis with the permission and under the direct supervision of either an approved regular volunteer or a staff Chaplain. Scheduling of all Kairos meetings and events may be limited by time, staff, and space availability within the overall structure of the Religious Program Schedule of Activities.
7. An outside volunteer (non-badged) group of at least 30 persons is permitted to support the closing by attendance for a Kairos short course. Where conditions at the institution permit and sufficient staffing allows, the warden may authorize an additional group for 60 citizen (non-badged) volunteers to attend the closing service. This group is in addition to the (badged) volunteers approved for the entire weekend. These are to be held on Sunday afternoon beginning at approximately 3:00 p.m. and end at 6:00 p.m.
8. All inmates attending the short course will be allowed to receive one written letter in an envelope from each Kairos team member and people of the supporting community containing expressions of prayer and spiritual support. These letters will be made available for security inspection no later than the Saturday of the scheduled weekend. These letters become the property of the inmate participants and as such are subject to inmate property rules and procedures. The participants will take notes of talks and presentations in a personal folder and may receive certain unique items such as “hands” (paper outline of hands) and paper placemats which, with the permission of the Administration, also become property of the inmate. Additionally, the team may bring in general letters that are not specifically addressed to individual inmates from various outside Christian communities, large felt banners and paper posters indicating Christ’s love and support from Christian communities and individuals around the world. It will consist only of written expressions. This material will be channeled through a team member or members who will be responsible for its contents and distribution. These general letters offer encouragement are for display only and will not become the personal property of any inmate. The banners, general letters, outside posters and posters prepared by the inmates during the weekend course will be removed from the institution premises by the Kairos team at the conclusion of the weekend.
9. The Kairos team will submit a list of all volunteers participating in the weekend at least 30 days in advance. The volunteer list may be limited to as few as 60 where there are limiting conditions such as time, space or staffing limitations. The institution will notify Kairos of any volunteers not cleared, or any other change, 10 days prior to the scheduled event. The Chaplain at the institution will provide Kairos a list of inmates participating in the short course, and 10 alternates. This list will be provided no later than ten days prior to the scheduled weekend. The chaplain at the institution will notify Kairos as soon as possible of any changes relating to the inmates scheduled to participate. The Chaplain at the

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institution will also provide Kairos the participating resident's TDCJ's #, work assignment, age and dormitory assignment. This information will be used to facilitate seating and the solicitation of prayer support.

10. The team will be permitted to bring in food items, materials and beverages as approved by the institution and listed on an approved list such as the one found in the Kairos Institutional memorandum. The team will be allowed to prepare outside food or bring in commercially prepared food and snacks and to eat with the inmates who are participating in the Kairos weekend at meal times established by the institution. Where security permits participants may take cookies to their dorm and the team may distribute cookies to the general population and institutional staff. The volunteer meals will be paid for by the members of the Kairos team except where funding is specifically designated to cover the cost of volunteer meals.
11. All food items must be packaged in such a manner that it may be easily searched for contraband by security staff. All packaging must be approved in advance by security staff.
12. The Kairos weekend leader with approval of the Chaplain may invite inmates who have completed a Kairos weekend to serve as table or kitchen servers on Kairos weekends and retreats.
13. Inmates will not be allowed to take any items away from a Kairos activity without prior approval of the Chaplain, Warden or Warden's designee. **Kairos will not bring anything into or out of the institution without approval from the Chaplain, Warden or Warden's designee.**
14. The Chaplain will cooperate with Kairos for selection of participants for a Kairos short course. The Chaplain with input from the Correctional Security Staff, and other staff as needed shall prepare a list of inmates for participation in the Kairos weekend. It is suggested that the Chaplain use the criteria in the Prison Impact Plan for inmates with leadership potential. Kairos believes our ministry works best when the participants include the negative resident leaders.
15. Kairos team members and guests commit themselves to the support of the Chaplain as the chief pastor of the institution and agree to conduct themselves in conformance with Texas Department of Criminal Justice security regulations and Kairos guidelines for volunteers entering correctional institutions. Kairos volunteers will be prompt in their obedience to the directions and requests of correctional officers and staff members, keeping always in mind the fact that our first obligation to the institution is the security of the residents and institutional professionals. We agree to perform the work of this ministry as detailed in the Kairos manuals and as set forth by the policies established by the Kairos Prison Ministry International Board of Directors. While Kairos will certainly support the Chaplain as the chief pastor of the institution it is agreed that Kairos will be permitted to operate its program pursuant to its Kairos Inside program manual.
16. In order to aid and support the Kairos program, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice will cooperate where possible with Kairos with statistical data concerning recidivism of those inmates who have participated in Kairos and the annual inmate adjustment rate within the institution beginning with the year(s) preceding introduction of the Kairos program.

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Kairos and the department may use this information to measure the impact of the program on the institution. This information shall be coordinated through the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Central Office and will be supplied in response to specific requests and as approved by institutional regulations.

17. The Kairos team will be permitted to take one weekend group picture of all participants including inmates and volunteers. Appropriate media release forms will be collected from all inmates who are in the picture. Kairos Prison Ministry may provide each inmate with a copy of this picture.

18. **This agreement is NOT intended to be a contract.** This agreement simply provides the guidelines which will permit the ministry to operate effectively within the institution. As with any program, Kairos operates best when it operates in cooperation with the institution and each party treats the other with mutual respect and due regard for our common goals.

Warden/State Officer

Kairos State Chapter Committee Representative

Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc

Date

KAIROS INSTITUTIONAL MEMORANDUM

WEEKEND NEEDS LIST

The following is a list of housekeeping items that will be provided by the institutions as they are able to.

- Large clear plastic garbage bags
- Large Coffee Maker and filters
- Four 5 gal jugs – for cold drinks
- Three Large Coolers – for Ice
- Access to Ice Supply
- Sound System
- CD/Tape player
- Eight – 60' Or 72' Round Tables (Kairos Prison Ministry can provide tables when necessary)
- Eighty-five chairs
- Twenty-five extra chairs for closing
- One easel or tripod
- Electric extension cords (no more than 25' in length)
- Toilet paper

When the institution is not able to provide any or all of the above items the Kairos Prison Ministry team will be instructed as to how these items may be provided by non Texas Department of Criminal Justice sources.

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KAIROS FOOD & FOOD SUPPLIES

Food

- Muffins, bagels, donuts
- cakes/pies/cookies/pastries
- snacks, Nuts, dried fruit, pretzels, chips, crackers, popcorn, candy,
- Outside free world food for lunch and dinner on Friday, Saturday and Sunday – prepared in advance & ready to serve (may include fresh fruit such as apples, oranges, bananas, berries);
- All proposed lunch & dinner menus should be given in advance to the Chaplain, Warden or Warden's designee for approval. Approval should not be denied unless the proposed menu item(s) constitutes a reasonable security or health risk.
- Coffee (bag only)
- Salt, pepper, hot sauce (Crystal, Tabasco)
- Sugar & artificial sweetener, cream substitute (all must be in individual packets)
- Tea, lemonade and sport drinks in powdered (sealed) form
- Ice

Food Supplies

- Styrofoam cups (hot) coffee
- Plastic cups (cold) drink mix
- Napkins
- Paper towels
- Paper or plastic plates and bowls
- Plastic spoons, forks
- Plastic or wooden serving utensils

- Plastic serving pitchers (for hot and cold drinks)
- Aprons
- Serving trays
- Paper place mats
- Table cloths

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KAIROS WEEKEND MATERIALS LIST

- Paper poster boards – used to express information from “talks”
- Non-retractable ballpoint pens or Pencils
- Writing paper – For note taking during weekend/talks or paper handouts
- Small wooden cross and chain for each candidate
- Freedom guides (small pamphlet) – this is used for prayer during and after weekend
- Kleenex
- Small sheets of dissolving paper for forgiveness service

- Name tags for team and each candidate – (clip or string)

- Group reunion cards for each candidate – (small prayer instruction card)

- Bible(s)

- Song books

- Camera and film (week-end group picture).

- Table name plaques

- Masking tape – the masking tape would be used to temporarily mount paper expressions/paper posters on the wall

- Colored markers (magic markers) – washable ink used to create posters

- Kairos week-end manual(s) for Chaplain or team use

- Paper place mats – {these are hand colored expressions of love from the community. }

- Felt banners – {these are motivational and inspirational banners that are used as an expression of love, faith, and Christian action (to be removed from the facility at closing

- Large wooden cross

- Music instruments (usually acoustic guitar)

- Where possible, a laptop computer, projector and screen (for power point presentations)

- Paper graduation certificate for each candidate

- Letters from Kairos team to each candidate with unsealed envelope

- Decorated paper lunch bags or similar paper bag for candidates’ letters from team

- Envelopes (9x12) to hold team & candidate list, photo & certificate (one for each inmate participant)

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- Team leader, advising leader & observing leader's Weekend organizational source book/folder
- Folder & paper for each team member giving a talk or meditation
- Other items with permission in advance from the Chaplain, Warden or Warden's designee