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WHAT DOES KAIROS MEAN

Kairos is a Greek word used to mean God's Special Time - an occasion in a person's life when they encounter God, maybe for the first time, and are changed forever.



For further information and date of next weekend please contact us:

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Copies of this brochure and our publicity posters can be downloaded in PDF format from our website at:

www.kairosoutside.org.uk

Kairos Outside UK is part of Kairos Prison Ministry - Reg. Charity No. 1071446

Kairos Outside

The purpose of Kairos Outside is to demonstrate God's grace and love through Christian support for women who have relatives or friends who are, or who have been, in prison



*I will never forget you, my people;
I have carved you in the palm of my hand.
(Isaiah 49 v 16)*

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WHAT IS ***KAIROS OUTSIDE***

Kairos Outside is part of Kairos Prison Ministry International, the parent organisation of a body of ministries ministering to men, women and young people in prison, their families and those who work in a prison environment.

From its origins in Florida in 1976 this work has spread to 29 other states in the USA and around the world to Canada, South Africa, the UK and Australia. It arrived in the UK in April 1997 at HMP The Verne in Dorset.

Kairos Outside began in 1989 as an idea from the Chaplain at San Quentin Correctional Facility in California, following a Kairos Ministry to prisoners where it was recognised that the spouses, parents and other relatives of prisoners often 'do time' along with their family members, and often have to be stronger to cope with every day life. ***Kairos Outside UK*** began their work here in 1998.

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WHAT DOES ***KAIROS OUTSIDE*** DO

Kairos Outside organises special weekends away for women family members or friends of prisoners.

The Weekend runs from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon and consists of a series of talks by women sharing their life experiences. Each guest has the opportunity to review the talk in small groups. However participation in these discussions is entirely voluntary.

The programme is interspersed with music, prayer, fun activities, good food and general pampering.

The Weekend is Christian in nature although no religious affiliation is necessary as any woman whose life has been affected by the imprisonment of a family member or friend is eligible to attend. Guests do not have to be Christian or go to church to be able to enjoy a Weekend.

Many of the people in the outside world may not be able to either imagine or understand the position of these women and some may reject them. This Weekend is designed to give them support from women who are in the same situation and from others who care about them and their family. Each Weekend is run by a team drawn from different denominations: mainly women, some men and two female clergy.

Kairos Outside UK aims to hold one Weekend a year for 12-16 guests. If finances are available, it may be possible to increase the number held. The Weekend is free to guests, but team members pay their own costs.

Kairos Outside UK needs to find approximately £2,500 for each Weekend.

Support is continued after the Weekend through regular Reunions and personal contact from team members. In many instances new friendships are formed between guests at the weekends who then are able to give each other support as well.

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HOW CAN YOU HELP ***KAIROS OUTSIDE***

- **PRAY:** for Kairos Outside and for people affected by imprisonment
- **PUBLICISE KAIROS OUTSIDE:** Invite a member of Kairos Outside to speak to your church or group. Place one of our Kairos Outside posters in your church doctor's surgery, library etc. If you visit a prison, talk to those you meet about the existence of Kairos Outside.
- **GIVE OF TIME AND TALENT:** Make or give little gifts for Weekend guests to show you care; organise a coffee morning, sponsored slim, car boot sale, or other event to raise funds; help on a Kairos Outside Weekend (involves a commitment to team training beforehand, and maybe keeping in touch with one of two guests afterwards); sell Kairos Outside promotional items in your church.
- **FINANCIAL GIVING:** Kairos Outside is part of a registered charity, funded entirely by donations. Consider giving regularly by Standing Order or give a one-off donation. (Cheques should be made payable to Kairos Outside UK. Gift Aid forms are available from the address on the back of this leaflet)