



Dear KAMP Mentors & Community Support:

The Kodiak Area Mentor Program (KAMP) would like to take this time to wish you all a Merry Christmas and to thank each of you for all you have done throughout 2016 in support of KAMP and those overcoming setbacks.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ... [Matthew 25:35-40](#)

THANK YOU - JAIL MINISTRY MENTORS

This area of our ministry is such a privilege. We have a wonderful group of men and women that go into the jail on Saturday night. They love the Lord and in their own way they are sharing that love with each individual that walks into the room to help build relationships and healthy futures.

THANK YOU LETTER WRITING MENTORS

We cannot say enough about all of the individuals who take the time to write to inmates in prison and in treatment centers. This is another "detail" that is so essential to building a relationship and sharing the Lord with someone. Taking time to write someone is a sacrifice these days. Getting a letter tells that individual that you gave up your time for them. You found them important enough to sit down and put pen to paper and share your thoughts and snippets of your life. There is no replacement for the importance of this. The only thing better is having a cup of coffee or sharing a meal. Time with someone is the most precious and important thing we do. Thank you very much for finding this ministry important and participating.

THANK YOU -COMMUNITY MENTORS

Most of our community mentors are also jail mentors and letter writers. These individuals go full circle with many inmates. They start at the jail level and move to the prison level and then back to community. Staying in touch with an individual full circle in such a way is again incredibly important in helping someone move forward with change. This is a relationship designed to walk alongside and "encourage" another. We motivate, we cheerlead and we speak truth into the lives of those looking for a brighter future.

Thank you to all of you who take the time to have someone home for dinner, to meet for a cup of coffee or even sit in court as a person of support. Thank you for spending time and allowing individuals to feel "heard" and "valued".

THANK YOU - PRAYER WARRIORS

Thank you to all of our prayer warriors. We especially want to thank Florence Daneliuk and Margaret Miller. Their many years of dedication to the Lord make them invaluable teachers and examples of the importance of prayer.

These women continually remind us not only the importance of prayer but what it means to walk up to someone and say "how can I pray for you"! What a loving and important act. When these women ask that question of you – you know you are not going to be prayed for just once but rather without ceasing!



Individuals do not always know what to say when someone comes up and says, “how can I pray for you”. Initially, it even makes them uncomfortable because there are many that have never had anyone care for them in this way. It is easy to see that though what made them uncomfortable to accept initially now comforts them and shows them they are loved and they are important. What a loving gift!

THANK YOU - KAMP GROUP NIGHT HELPERS

(KAMP Group, a recovery, re-entry, family support and spiritual growth meeting)

Set Up and Food: Thank you to all who help organize Friday - KAMP Group night. Every detail is important, from the setting up of tables and chairs, preparing dinner, to organizing each week’s topics of discussion. Thank you also for those of you who extend rides to and from KAMP Group meetings. Every person involved is important and appreciated.

Child Care: Thank you to Heather Foxworthy, Christine Bieber and Kathryn Buchanen for being open with us and helping us develop a child care program that would be thoughtful and inspiring to all of the children who attend. KAMP is excited to say that we have a wonderful group of ladies (Karyn Buchanen, KC Oatman, Lauren Hosier, Princess Hermano, Angie Smitley) who are happy to be assisting us with a structured program for the kids. It was fun to recently see the kids and the individuals in charge all come out of the room with smiles on their faces because everyone had such a good time. Thank you for your service!

Food Donations: Thank you to all of the individuals who routinely help us with food items. We have some wonderful people who week after week provided us with cookies and other items for Friday KAMP Group night. Food plays a big role in bringing people together and is so appreciated.

THANK YOU - CHURCH COMMUNITY

The church community is vital to our success and we thank them for their support of KAMP and assisting in so many situations. The church community has assisted us in and is directly responsible for the following:

- Allowing KAMP to plug individuals into a church home and small group bible studies – **the ultimate goal of KAMP!**
- Financial assistance has been given to KAMP on numerous occasions to be used for those in need and special circumstance.
- Bibles and Devotionals
- Prayer Support
- A wonderful meeting place for KAMP Group night!

**THANK YOU - PRISON CHAPLAINS AND COMMUNITY PASTORS**

There are no words to explain our appreciation for these individuals who have reached out to every individual that has been sent their way. On many occasions we have had the ability to send a note to a prison chaplain that an individual headed their way desires change in their life. The Chaplains at the prison would take it from there and do an incredible job of nurturing this desire. We have been overwhelmed many times by the miracles God has performed through these dedicated Chaplains. We also have a couple community Pastors in the Wasilla and Anchorage area and at our request will also take valuable time to reach out to special need situations. What God does with this network is exciting and these individuals are invaluable to us.

THANK YOU – KODIAK JAIL – (SERGEANT, CORRECTION OFFICERS), PROBATION & PAROLE, JUDGES AND DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S

Christmas is also the time to thank and show gratitude for all of our public servants who have been extremely gracious to our KAMP program.

These individuals witness many sad and difficult situations over the year. It is important to KAMP that we endeavor to give hope in this area. It is not just the individual recovering from setbacks in life that need to have hope, it is those that witness their devastation and destruction. Hearts become hardened when there is no hope. KAMP wishes to serve as encouragement to these public servants that there is indeed hope and there are lives that become changed. As this change occurs and as those individuals become ready, we will continue to encourage them to speak to these public servants to encourage and prove that change can and does continue to happen. It may seem to you that what you are saying to some of these individuals going through struggles does not matter but they remember every word! As they became ready for change they remembered your words and those words became building blocks of that change. Be encouraged and believe that amidst the sea of those that seem to not want change.....there is indeed someone desperately fighting to live a better life and you might never get to know that something you said was part of that determination for change.

THANK YOU - EMPLOYERS

Thank you to all the wonderful employers willing to take a chance on individuals in need of a job. These people are invaluable to the success of our program. There are times when employers do not have a positive outcome with an employee and the chance they gave that employee even became stressful and even terminated. However, even though a particular individual did not work out, the employers we have are still willing to try again because they know that every person should be judged by their own merits not those before them. What a blessing these employers are!

THANK YOU - SAFE AND SOBER HOMES AND SHELTERS

Thank you to the very precious few safe and sober situations we have in the community. These people have such a big heart for what can be either a wonderful or a difficult arrangement. Not everyone who is taken in is ready to change. These wonderful people take this role on to do what they can and they keep in mind that they cannot control when a person is ready for change. A successful transition into the community is celebrated and an unsuccessful transition is held up in prayer.



FINAL THOUGHTS

As you can see, KAMP cannot be effective without each of these very important entities. Each year, God provides us with new and wonderful people as KAMP supporters and participants. God also provides us with many solutions time and again through the networking of good and caring people.

Though there can be very sad moments of discouragement and disappointment when those we have grown to care about are not ready for change, we know that God is in control and that our job then is to continue holding them up in prayer.....until!

In closing, we would also like to thank God for continuing to work in our own personal lives as well. We can at times be headed for a jail meeting or a KAMP Group meeting with the intention of being of help to someone else – only to find personal growth for ourselves. God continues to use KAMP to show each of us how we grow in the Lord every day of our life. We are all grateful, appreciative and thankful for not just having the privilege of sharing God's love with others but in what is shared with us as well through the experience.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we hope through this Christmas letter that we have conveyed to each of you just how God uniquely uses every Chaplain, Pastor, Church, Employer, Public Servant, Safe Home, mentor and many more in our network towards the healing transformation of those in need.

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