

POWER OF PEACE PROJECT

KIT CUMMINGS

AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR & TEACHER,
VIOLENCE PREVENTION SPECIALIST

In 2010 Kit founded the Power of Peace Project. Using the experience he gained resolving conflict in some of the most dangerous areas in the world, he applies his principles to bring about change in prisons, schools, juvenile courts, and the faith-based community. On MLK Day 2020, Kit was recognized by the NAACP receiving their Martin Luther King, Jr. Living the Dream Award for his contribution to civil rights and his work with underserved youth and prison reform. In 2021 he was appointed to the Georgia House of Representatives House Study Committee on Youth Gangs and Violence which led to the passing of the anti-gang bill HB750 under Chairman Rep. Carl Gilliard.

Kit has been in over a hundred prisons, jails, detention centers, and rehab facilities and worked with over ten thousand prisoners; as well as over one hundred schools, churches, and youth organizations and worked with over ten thousand teens. He has journeyed on tours through Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America, and has negotiated peace between some of the most notorious gangs inside the U.S. prison industrial complex. In 2012 Kit delivered an address about his powerful peace projects at the Gandhi Global Peace Summit in Durban, South Africa to representatives from the Gandhi, King, and Mandela organizations, as well as other iconic peacemakers from around the world. Kit has taken his Forty Days to Freedom program into dangerous La Mesa prison in Tijuana, Mexico to teach prisoners nonviolence, as well as working with addicts and youth in some of the toughest areas of that cartel war-torn border city. Kit has planted seeds of peace all around the world.

Kit has authored six books, including the award-winning Peace Behind the Wire, a Nonviolent Resolution which has been endorsed by the King Family. His latest book, The New Convict Code, Bringing Peace to the Streets from Behind the Wire, flips the script on prison reform and aims to shatter the school-to-prison pipeline. Currently, Kit is partnered with the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice to bring peace to the over one thousand kids incarcerated in Georgia detention centers and youth prisons.

kitcummings.com



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FACT SHEET

- Kit has been in over 100 prisons, jails, detention centers, and rehab facilities across the country and on 4 continents, and worked with over 10,000 inmates
- Kit has been in over 100 schools, churches, and youth organizations across the country and overseas, and worked with over 10,000 teens
- In 2020 Kit was recognized by the NAACP with their Living the Dream Award for his contribution to civil rights and his work with at-risk youth and prison reform
- In 2019 Kit was appointed to the Georgia House of Representatives Study Committee on Young Gangs and Violence, and was instrumental in the passing of the HB 750 Anti-Gang Bill
- Kit is a certified gang specialist with the National Gang Crime Research Center in Chicago, and won their 2021 Spirit Award for Promising New Initiatives in the Field of Gang Prevention, Gang Intervention, and Gang Counseling
- Kit has written 6 books including the award-winning Peace Behind the Wire, a Nonviolent Resolution (endorsed by the King Family) and The New Convict Code, Bringing Peace to the Streets from Behind the Wire
- In 2015 Kit won Honorable Mention for Author of the Year, along with co-honorary President Jimmy Carter, by the Georgia Writer's Association
- Kit is currently contracted with the Department of Juvenile Justice and tasked with bringing peace to over one thousand youths incarcerated in the State of Georgia
- Kit is currently contracted with Marietta City Schools and works with high-risk youth in the MAPS program

- POPP partners include Cobb EMC, Cobb Schools Foundation, Cobb County Police Department, Cobb County Juvenile Court, and Cobb County Sheriff's Office
- Kit is currently partnered with Cobb County Juvenile Court in their RISING program, which is a gang-specialty court designed to wrap around juvenile felons and equip them with the tools to change their direction in life and make the most of a true second chance
- Kit has run his Protect the Dream program for student-athletes in 12 of the 18 Cobb County high schools, and has earned 2 state championship rings
- Kit's Forty Days of Prayer program has had significant impact bringing communities together in 25 different faith-based organizations across the country and in southern Africa
- Kit has shown significant results in 3 juvenile prisons in Ohio (Circleville, Indian River, and Cuyahoga Hills) and helped decrease monthly youth isolation hours from 672 hours in May 2013 to a state record of 74 hours in May 2014
- Brooks Correctional Institution saw a 50% reduction in violence from 2012-2014 after taking over 1,000 inmates through Kit's Forty Days to Freedom and Forty Days to Peace programs. During that span, Brooks became three-to-five times less violent than all other maximum-security facilities in Michigan
- Kit works with the Police Athletic League and Cobb County Police Department putting on "Cops vs. Kids" Corn Hole tournaments to bring police and communities together. Protect the Dream grads compete against Cobb County's finest to build bridges and heal divides
- Kit serves with the Extension in Marietta to help men in recovery rebuild their lives. He also coaches young people who have been court-ordered to perform community service in Cobb County
- POPP program graduates to date:

3,000 inmates

1,500 students

5,500 congregants

75 police officers

75 high school and college coaches

Total: over 10,000 graduates