



# Landing Strip

Our Mission: "Making a Difference"

We are a group of men and women who meet to offer a welcoming hand to those with some AVP experience, who are going through the transition back to society. We have learned that often the most difficult bid begins upon release from prison.

Meetings are 6 pm – 9 pm the first Tuesday and the third Wednesday of every month in Manhattan.

We meet in one of the rooms at the Friends (Quaker) Meetinghouse which is between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues and 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets at 15 Rutherford Place in Manhattan. (Take the N, R, L or 4, 5, or 6 trains to 14 Street-Union Square.)

Dinner as well as transportation reimbursement (\$4) are provided at the meetings.

Landing Strip serves those interested in finding a safe place where the challenges of transition can be shared openly and most importantly, understood by those who have already "been there" and face the same challenges.

At this time we do not have services such as housing, job references, food or clothing. What we do have is continuing "a community based on honesty, respect and caring." Our members give out on-going information that is helpful in the transition process.

**Call for information: 1-800-909-8920**

**Or write the NY State AVP office at:**



**Alternatives to Violence Project**

**P. O. Box 54**

**Poplar Ridge, NY 13139**

[www.AVPNY.org](http://www.AVPNY.org)

[avpnys@aol.com](mailto:avpnys@aol.com)

## **A bit about the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP)...**

AVP began in 1975. A group of prisoners at Green Haven Prison (who called themselves “The Think Tank”), in New York State, were looking at issues involving youth. Young people were entering prison. The group began to develop a program for youth in prison and asked a group of Quakers or Friends from the Quaker Project on Community Conflict (a program at Green Haven) to help.

Friends (Quakers) drew on their experience of training volunteers to prevent anti-Vietnam war demonstrations from becoming violent.

In developing the program, The Think Tank began to see a need to address the violence in themselves and in their communities. The Attica rebellion and The Think Tank planted the seed and some Quakers gathered in Friend Larry Apsey’s living room and held the first AVP workshop.

It is from these roots that AVP has flourished into a world-wide, not-for-profit organization in more than forty countries.

Gary R. writes: *“As a former prisoner, I think it is important to give much credit to the group of inmates, who, in trying to better the lives of others, has bettered the lives of thousands for 32 years and [in] many different places in the world.”*

