

AVP New York Facilitator Guide

You are now a facilitator what do you do now?

Congratulations on becoming an AVP Facilitator! We look forward to building community with you as your journey continues in AVP. We hope this guide will provide an overview of AVP New York's policy and practices outside of the workshops.

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When you can facilitate a workshop:

- Once you are a facilitator, you are encouraged to sign up to facilitate workshops within your local region or area council. As with all things AVP, we work in teams. As an Apprentice Facilitator, it is particularly important that you work with a team of seasoned (experienced) facilitators to facilitate AVP Basic, Advanced, and Training for Facilitators (T4F) Workshops, all based on your own capacity.
- Once you are confident in facilitating all aspects of an AVP workshop and experienced facilitators also affirm that you are ready, you can start building a facilitation team. See <https://avpny.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Organizing-Kit.pdf>
- To find more information on AVP NY local regions or area councils see section 5.
- If you are interested in going inside a New York State prison to facilitate a workshop, see section 7
- If you are looking to start a workshop inside a New York State prison as a person who is incarcerated see section 8.

AVP NY By-Laws

- See <https://www.avpny.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/AVP-NY-By-Laws-revised-11.05.11.pdf>

AVP NY Mission

- Alternatives to Violence Project New York is a grassroots volunteer organization dedicated to reducing interpersonal violence in our society. We offer experiential workshops that present conflict transformation skills that empower people to lead non-violent lives through affirmation, respect for all, cooperation, communication, community building, and trust.

AVP NY Current Board Council:

- President
 - Responsible for convening and clerking board council meetings. Serves on all committees as needed and on the Leadership Team
 - Rosemary Oaks-Lee
 - Term Expiration: 2024
- Vice-President
 - Fills in where president is absent. Served on the Leadership Team
 - Coralie Joseph
 - Term Expiration: 2022—looking for a replacement
- Treasurer
 - Responsible for reporting the financial health of the organization to the Board Council. Serves on the Office (Personnel) Committee and the Leadership Team.
 - Carolyn Polikarpus
 - Term: No expiration
- Assistant Treasurer
 - Serves as back-up to the Treasurer. Serves on the Office (Personnel) Committee and the Leadership Team.
 - Anika Flagg
 - Term: No expiration
- Secretary
 - Records Board Council meeting minutes. Serves on the Office (Personnel) Committee and the Leadership Team.
 - John Sheridan
 - Term: No expiration
- At Large Members
 - Attends Board Council meetings; participates in the life of the organization. (There is no limit on how many at large members the organization may have.)
 - Carolyn Polikarpus
 - Alphonso Simmons
 - Yolanda Lewi
 - Van Lewis
 - Stave Bradley
 - Jackie Labatt-Simon
 - John Sheridan
 - Term: No expiration
- Quaker Representatives
 - Attends Board Council meetings; participates in the life of the organization. AVP NY by-laws state that the New York Yearly Meeting (a Quaker body) shall appoint six Friends to our board.
 - Mary Eagleson
 - Joseph Maguey Soto
 - John Scardina

- Jill McLellan
- Term: 3 years
- Regional Area Council AVP Representatives
 - Attends Board Council meetings; participates in the life of the organization. Each area council (there are currently 11 area councils) is responsible for choosing a representative to the AVP NY Board Council and an alternate.
 - Heather Kirk-Davidoff (Albany AC) (alternate)
 - Robert Schwab (Bronx AC)
 - Daneryl Weber (Catskill AC)
 - Rosemary Oaks-Lee (Central NY AC)
 - Anika Flagg (Central NY AC) (alternate)
 - Jose Pineda (Mid-Hudson AC)
 - Alisha Kohn (Mid-Hudson AC) (alternate)
 - Yvette (Cia) Miller (NYC and LI AC)
 - Fred Feucht (Westchester AC)
 - Coralie Joseph (Westchester AC) (alternate)
 - Term: No expiration
 - Genesee Valley and Niagara Frontier ACs do not currently have representatives to the AVP NY Board Council.

To be on the AVP NY Board Council, one must be an AVP Facilitator and must be nominated by the Nominating Committee or appointed by New York Yearly Meeting (Quakers) or an area council. Board Members' terms typically begin and end at the AVP New York Annual Gathering. If you would like to be considered to serve on the board council, or to suggest a fellow AVP facilitator, please email info@avpny.org or write to:

AVP NY

P.O. Box 6851,

Ithaca, NY 14851-6851

800-909-8920

For information about The AVP New York Annual Gathering, see Section of the AVP NY By-laws.

AVP NY Regions.

- What is an Area Council?
 - AVP NY has eleven area councils, covering eleven regions in New York state. Each area council is comprised of active AVP facilitators who live in the region. They meet to coordinate the workshops that happen within the region--in community settings, schools, prisons, and jails.
- Map of Area Councils <https://www.avpny.org/avp-ny-map/>
 - Adirondack, Albany, Bronx, Catskill, Central New York, Elmira, Genesee Valley, Mid-Hudson, New York City & Long Island, Niagara Frontier, Westchester.



AVP NY Statewide Events

- **The Annual Gathering**

The annual gathering is a gathering of AVP NY facilitators (typically held in person with hybrid options) for community/team building, to strengthen skills and explore a topic in a deeper way. We also hold our annual meeting for the appointment of officers and goal setting for the following year. We want to make the gathering accessible and fun for all who wish to attend.

- **Forum Day**

A gathering is held every spring at one of the prisons where there is an active AVP program. Inside (incarcerated) facilitators and registered program providers (volunteers) from across the state attend the day-long event. AVP Facilitators at that prison plan and facilitate activities for community/team building, strengthening skills and exploring a topic in a deeper way. Administrative aspects of the organization are discussed with the inside facilitators.

AVP in New York State Correctional Facilities

- **AVP workshops are currently offered in the following prisons:**
 - Albion
 - Attica
 - Auburn
 - Bedford Hills
 - Cayuga
 - Clinton
 - Elmira
 - FCI Ray Brook
 - Green Haven
 - Groveland
 - Otisville
 - Sing Sing
 - Taconic
 - Wende
 - Woodbourne

- **AVP Outside Coordinator**
 - An outside facilitator who works with the prison administration to schedule workshops etc.; communicates with the inside coordinator and facilitators, and other outside facilitators.

- **AVP Facilitators in NYS Prisons**
 - AVP teams are made up of outside and inside facilitators that provide workshops in the prison.
 - If you find yourself in a prison where there is not an AVP community, you can write to AVP NY to ask if an outside coordinator is available. Also, write to the facility's "volunteer services coordinator".

AVP NY Landing Strip

Landing Strip provides a safe place where the challenges of transition from prison can be shared openly and understood by those who have already "been there" and faced the same challenges. Landing Strip is a network for support and connection to resources, and a community based on honesty, respect and caring. (Landing Strip does not provide direct services such as housing, jobs, food, or clothing.) Our members share current information that is helpful in the transition process, as well as honest friendship and moral support. Currently active in Rochester. Contact info@avpny.org, 315-604-7940.

Staying connected with AVP NY:

AVP NY Newsletter

Our semi-annual or annual newsletter shares information about what is going on in AVP NY. All active inside facilitators receive the AVP NY newsletters—brought in by the outside coordinator. Contact the AVP NY office at info@avpny.org or 315-604-7940.

AVP NY e-list

To receive notification of upcoming community workshops in NYS and NJ as well as news from AVP NY, sign up on the home page of www.avpny.org or contact the AVP NY office at info@avpny.org or 315-604-7940

AVP Beyond New York:

AVP USA works to bring all AVP communities across the USA together for networking. This organization publishes the manuals, hosts an annual conference and publishes a quarterly newsletter “The Transformer” to share AVP work across the nation to both “inside” and “outside” workshops and facilitators.

Training for Facilitators Workshop graduates’ names and e-mail addresses are sent to AVP USA so that you will be registered as a facilitator and receive the discounted rate when purchasing manuals and other publications through www.avpusa.org.

The AVP-L (mass email listserv) provides updates on AVP communities, networking with other AVP facilitators, or information about workshops in other regions. To be added to the list, contact <https://avpusa.org/resources-fac/email-discussion-groups/> To learn more about AVP USA, go to the website at www.avpusa.org.

AVP International works to bring all AVP communities together throughout the world. AVP International holds a conference once every three years and hosts workshops. AVP International focuses on countries and communities that have been impacted by extreme violence. Local groups have adapted workshops and exercises to better meet the needs of local cultures. To learn more about AVP International, go to <https://avp.international/>

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