

Breakout Sessions

Saturday 7:30-9:30 pm ET

Zoom and Google Drive

To help facilitators understand ZOOM better and become familiar with Google Drive documents from a participant, host and co-host view - includes share screen and break-out rooms. Presented by Diana Couch and Ilaria Buonriposi. Diana has been in AVP since 1992. is from AVP-Antelope Valley CA, and Ilaria, originally from Italy, became involved in AVP Maryland in 2020. Both are active in presenting on-line.

Grassroots Fundraising

To help local groups run successful fundraising campaigns. In an Individual Giving Campaign in New York State we increased our contributions 69% in a recession year when individual contributions were down nationally by 15%. Presented by-Fred Feucht and Coralie Joseph. Fred has been a facilitator since 1981 and has run several successful fundraising campaigns for AVP NY and AVP Westchester. Coralie has been with AVP Westchester since 2016 and is VP of AVP NY.

Starting and Coordinating AVP in a New Location

Joe and Kathy Ossmann will describe their experiences in starting AVP in Michigan. Using open discussion and learning from each other, they will encourage attendees to describe their own experiences. Joe and Kathy did their initial AVP workshops in Sacramento, CA in 2008-2009. When they moved to Michigan in 2010 they discovered that AVP was not active there. There are now active programs in two areas of the state and regular workshops in two prisons. They are co-coordinators of AVP Michigan.

LGBTQ in AVP

This is an interactive learning workshop on how AVP facilitators can be more inclusive in their workshops towards the Queer Community. Presented by Alisha Kohn (she/her), a facilitator since 2010, former inside coordinator, and currently VP of AVP USA and Sayd Catania who is new to AVP, having completed their training virtually this fall. They are both part of the Newburgh LGBTQ Center, which operates across the Hudson Valley.

Restorative Witnessing

Restorative Witnessing (RW) involves practices of deep listening and beneficial questioning workshops. The practice includes authentic storytelling and compassionate listening. RW is very effective in relieving stress and trauma. The exercise that will be facilitated during the session places people in small groups where they can share their experiences and witness each other in a restorative and structured manner. Nancy Vimla, facilitator since 2009, and Peggy Craik, a facilitator since 2014, are both active with AVP San Luis Obispo, CA. Rabia Khawar became a facilitator in 2015, focused primarily on community workshops, and serves on the AVP/CA Steering Committee. Mark Thomas started AVP in 1992 while incarcerated at USP Lompoc, CA. Released in 1994, he is associated with AVP CA and AVP Bay Area.

Sunday 7:30-9:30 pm ET

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Adap-tasting

An opportunity to experience some AVP Adaptations, including "Power of Goodness," AVP mini-workshops of 1-3 hours organized around a theme and a story, and somatic exercises from "Embodied Transforming Power." We'll talk a peek into AVP-based "Family Circles," and a wee taste of or report on YOUR adaptations. What are you up to? "Snapshots" welcome. Facilitators: Nadine Hoover, Nancy Martin, Kevin King, Noelle Pollet, Rita Cronise, & YOU?

AVP Lives Inside: 3 Recently Published Books by 3 Returned Citizens

Open your hearts to the lived experiences of Returning Citizens in California. Panel moderated by Tondria Hall who has been with AVP since 2016 and recently started a new role with a program that responds to crisis situations to stabilize the individual and connects them to resources. Panelists are: Terrance Dwayne Hunter: "My 30 Years with the California Department of Corrections" 2018; James Alexander: "Courage in the Face of Cruelty" 2019; and Quan Huynh: "sparrow in the razor wire" 2020.

Outreach and Recruitment

It is time for AVP to Thrive, not just Survive! The purpose of this session is to help your local AVP group grow and thrive by recruiting and training new outside facilitators. Westchester Area Council usually recruits and trains 18-20 outside facilitators each year. Facilitated by Fred Feucht and Coralie Joseph. Fred has been a facilitator since 1981 and a prison coordinator for 30 years. Coralie has been with AVP since 2016 and has been a Kairos prison facilitator for 20 years.

Creative Cooperative Brainstorming

This exercise has the group silently adding text, writing, and drawing on the Zoom whiteboard, utilizing the app's variety of fonts, colors, symbols, and shapes. This one is done mostly in silence and can become very meditative. It is usually restorative and energizing as the group produces their creative work. Nancy Vimla, facilitator since 2009, and Peggy Craik, a facilitator since 2014, are both active with AVP San Luis Obispo, CA. Rabia Khawar became a facilitator in 2015, focused primarily on community workshops, and serves on the AVP/CA Steering Committee. Mark Thomas started AVP in 1992 while incarcerated at USP Lompoc, CA. Released in 1994, he is associated with AVP CA and AVP Bay Area.

Monday 3-6 pm ET

AVP and PRISE: Increasing facilitator capacity to respond to trauma (PRISE is Paraprofessional delivering Resilience Intervention Skills and Education) Increase awareness of proposal for Level 2 Trauma Resiliency workshop. Presented by Heidi Pidcoke, an AVP facilitator since 2006 and a psychotherapist since 1995 specializing in trauma (EMDR) and Somatics, and Amanda Roberts, a Clinical Psychologist/researcher with a specialty in Behavioral Medicine, hypnosis and EMDR Therapy and the architect of the PRISE training program that is being adapted into 2nd level Trauma Resiliency workshop.

To Keep Showing Up: Continuing Our Anti-Racism Work

This is your invitation to identify the anti-racism work you wish to engage or grow, both individually and in your local group. While we will name the anti-racism efforts we have already undertaken, the primary focus will be on the work that lies ahead for us. Let's find and name ways that we hope to sustain this lifelong, generational walk toward justice and genuine community. Presented by Aaron Nell and Erica Pearson. Aaron Nell has facilitated workshops in Indiana over the last fifteen years. He enjoys poetry, playing music, and fries. Erica Pearson taught elementary students for many years in Richmond, IN and has been an active facilitator for the last ten years.