
ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE PROJECT -
CALIFORNIA

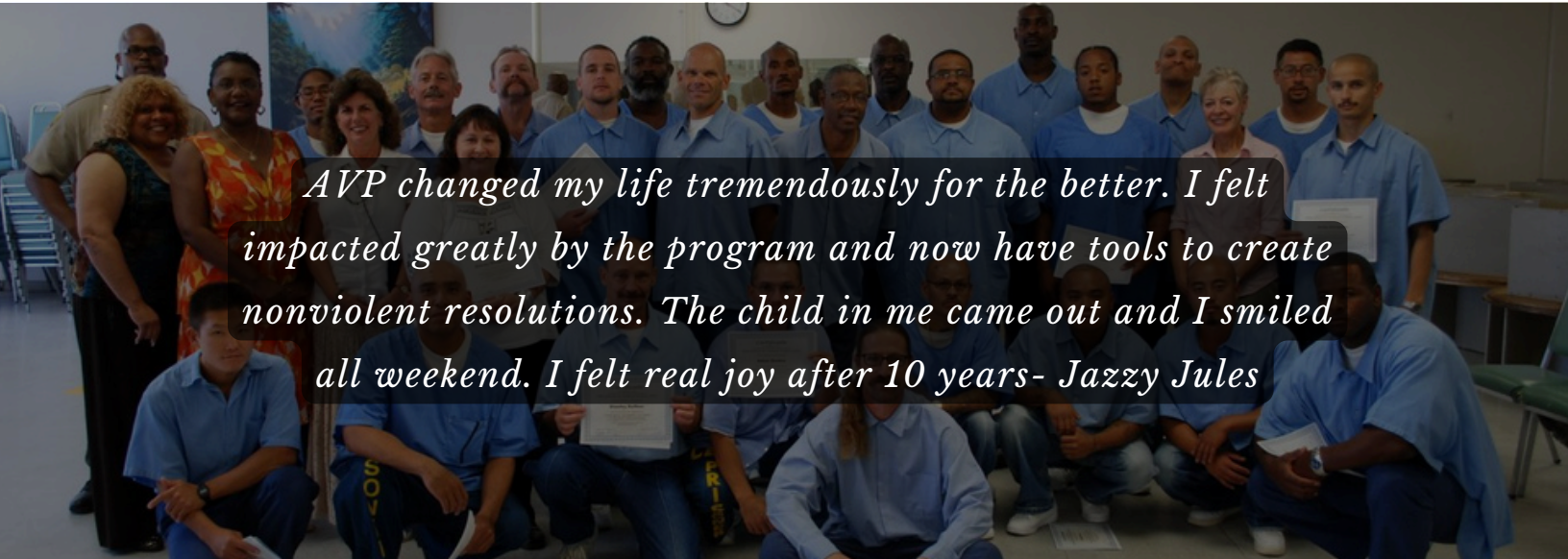


2025
ANNUAL
REPORT

A NOTE FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE

From Tenderhearted Thom

If you are reading this annual report, you are likely already a part of the Alternatives to Violence community. I thank you for your contributions in time, money, and dedication. AVP-California made significant progress in 2024 and continues to expand in 2025. The rest of this annual report will elaborate on the numerical growth as our movement recovers from the pandemic; therefore, I won't reiterate that point. What I'd like to talk about is the importance of AVP to those incarcerated in our state. I frequently see incarcerated men experience previously unreachable revelations through AVP exercises. Men openly cry in front of their peers, risking the appearance of vulnerability. Latinos embrace Black inmates, breaking the barriers that usually bar such interactions. Deep laughter and joy result from workshops, showing that – often for the first time – participants accept that they possess the transforming power to create a loving and supportive life. Most importantly I have seen men transform themselves and start new lives after decades in prison. I'm thinking of Manny, Kelly, Terrance, Ivan, Amos, and so many others. This incredible transformation is only possible through your continued support. With your support, in March 2024, AVP California first retained its first half-time administrative coordinator. This action helped give structure to the organization and ensure that the scores of volunteers received the support they needed. Your support is needed to reimburse volunteer facilitators for their mileage, and accommodations when they travel overnight to facilitate in distant prisons. Funds are also required for the purchase of manuals and supplies. Thank you for your part in this community. We appreciate those who volunteer to facilitate, those who donate money, and those who pray for a more nonviolent world. We are all integral parts of our continuing success.



AVP changed my life tremendously for the better. I felt impacted greatly by the program and now have tools to create nonviolent resolutions. The child in me came out and I smiled all weekend. I felt real joy after 10 years- Jazzy Jules



A letter from one of our friends “inside”:

I appreciate your words of encouragement, and enclosed is my donation to support your important work. A message I like to share with everyone is that being sentenced to prison can become a positive, life-changing opportunity to rehabilitate and “do the right thing”

Redemption and transformation are possible for ever human being. No matter what sins or crimes a person has committed in this life, no one is beyond the reach of God’s love, mercy , and forgiveness.

No person has to be forever condemned or defined by the past, or by the worst decision they have ever made. It is never too late to take the responsibility, grow in remorse, develop empathy, and make amends for all the wrongs by living a life of repentance, integrity , and service to others and that begins in your prison community.

Heading off to prison is not “the end” of someone’s life, but just the beginning of what could be the best thing that could ever happen to you, a blessing in disguise, a turning point to begin to address the pain, healing and needs of all stakeholders affected by our actions.



This group changed the way I think about myself. I really enjoyed it and am thankful I got to take it. - Beautiful Beto

PRISON WORKSHOPS

AVP operates within various facilities inside the state of California. We are proud of the work we do to support folks currently incarcerated.

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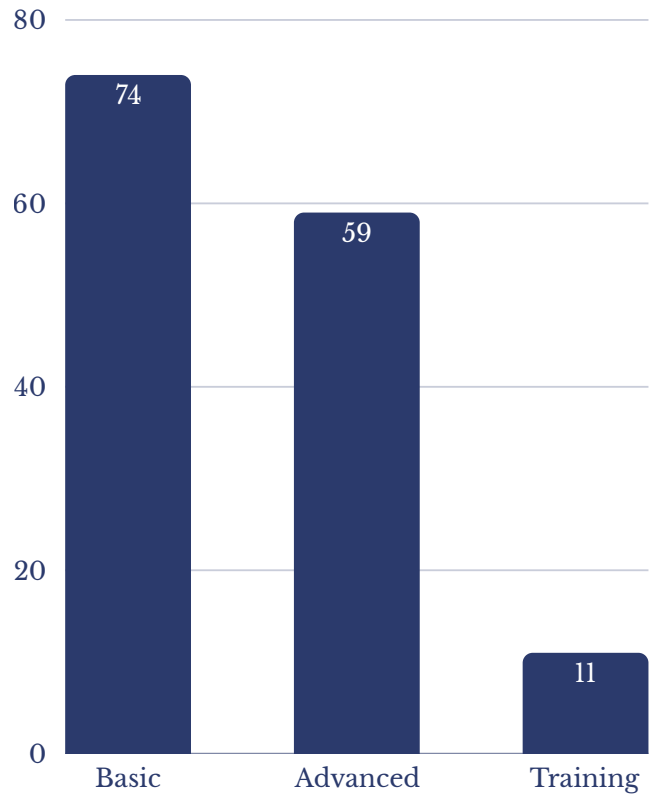
PRISONS WITH ACTIVE AVP WORKSHOPS

We are currently running regular workshops at 14 facilities across California.

SPANISH WORKSHOPS

As AVP works to provide more inclusive workshops we are building more facilitation teams that can offer workshops in Spanish.

Number of Workshops



2,152

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Over 2,000 people have completed workshops while incarcerated. Facilities with AVP notice more positive interactions on yards with AVP present



COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

AVP hosts workshops within communities across the state of California. This allows us to support healing within community.

16

LOCAL COUNCILS

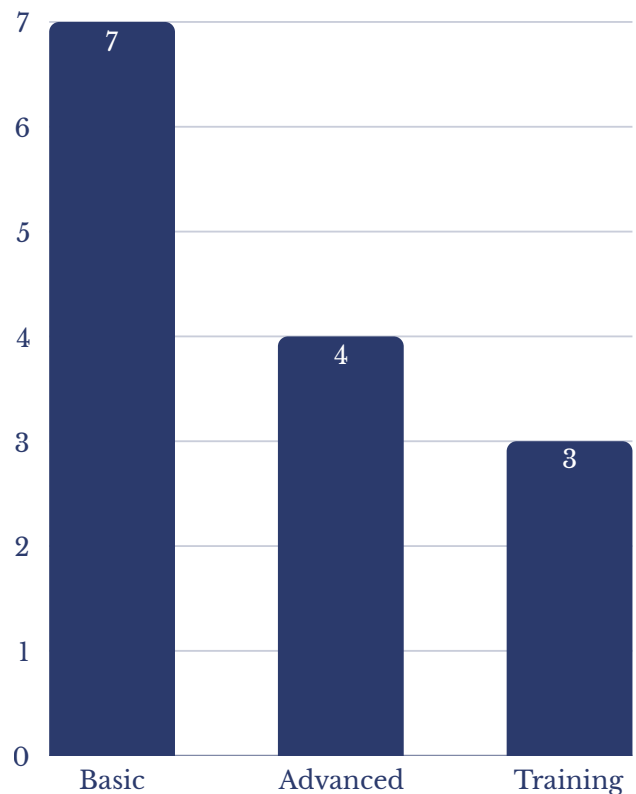
There are 16 local councils across the state that support both community and prison workshops.

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LOCAL COUNCIL GRANTS

AVP California gave microgrants to local councils to catalyze their work. Those grants supported powerful work across the state.

Number of Workshops



124

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Community workshops are coming back to life after the huge disruption of COVID. We are working to strengthen the community workshops happening.





AVP/CA continues to experience steady growth each year following the challenges of the COVID-19 period. As we expand into more prisons and community settings, the demand for workshops—and the resources required to support them—continues to rise.

So far in 2025, we have invested nearly \$50,000 in volunteer facilitator expenses, reimbursing \$45,000 for lodging, food, travel, and workshop materials. In addition, approximately \$5,000 in expenses have been generously donated in-kind to AVP/CA. On the revenue side, we have raised over \$10,000 from individual community donors and another \$1,500 from our dedicated inside facilitators.

Thanks to the support of a three-year grant and the dedication of our fundraising committee, we are maintaining a healthy financial position. However, as our programs grow, so too do our expenses. Looking ahead, we are excited about the possibility of expanding our reach by opening several new prison programs in 2026.

Your partnership can make this vision possible. Will you join us in bringing the Alternatives to Violence Project to more communities and correctional facilities across California?

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL
HIGHLIGHTS**

SUPPORT US IN BUILDING PEACE



As our "inside" facilitators continue to be returned to their communities from being incarcerated, they need our support. AVP/CA offers a stipend for our "returned" facilitators that join in and assist in community workshops. Help us ensure that these well-trained facilitators will get some financial assistance and the communities will get their experience and wisdom. Together we continue to grow a more peaceful world.

Donate via check or Betterworld to help us reach our goal. If you sign up to make a recurring \$10.00 monthly donation, you will receive an AVP T-Shirt
***While supplies last!*



Checks payable to AVP
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Tax ID: #20-3299334