AVP WA NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2026

Upcoming Workshops

Aug 22 – 24: Acacia Mainstream Basic
Sept 1 – 3: Karnet Prison Farm T4F
Sept 8 – 10: Bunbury PRU Advanced
Sept 15 – 17: Bunbury Regional Prison Advanced
Sept 19 – 21: Acacia Mainstream Basic
Sept 5, 12, 19 & 26: Community Basic (details below)

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PEACEFUL PATHWAYS TO CONFLICT RESOLUTION WORKSHOP

5th, 12th, 19th and 26th Sept.

9.00am to 1.00pm each day

We are delighted to offer our next Community Basic workshop in September.

Everyone over the age of 16 is welcome to join this workshop.

Please spread the word.

Email Selene at avp.wa1@gmail.com for more details.

Register through Humanitix using the link below or this QR code.

https://events.humanitix.com/peaceful-pathways-to-conflict-resolution-workshop-over-4-saturday-mornings

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Facilitator Day in Mount Lawley

We had a very successful Facilitator Day on the 15th August. The following is a summary of small group exercises in which we considered some aspects of role plays and explored the benefits and challenges of working in AVP teams.

ROLE PLAYS UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

1. **Why do we do role plays?**

Practice skills in real life situations
Visualise skills
See others' perspectives
Experience emotional impact
Know yourself better
Stand in another's shoes
Practice what we learn "in the heat of the moment"

2. Why do we de-brief?

Explore feelings and thought of characters
To understand the situation
Examine relationships during the role play
See how conflict is resolved

3. Why do we de-role?

Restore calm sense of self
Ensure not stuck in role

4. Should we provide scenarios or ask them to create scenarios?

Both are possible
Give participants the opportunity to come up with their own first

5. What's a good number of participants to have in each scenario?

Depends on the scenario
3 is good but four can work
Maybe 5 in big groups to limit the number of role plays which can be boring for participants.

6. Any special cautions e should give prior to the group preparation

Do not play your self
Avoid triggering topics
Use own name after de-role
Must not decide outcome in advance
No physical harm

7. When should we cut a role play?

When it's getting out of hand -
A resolution has been reached
The scenario is stalling and falling flat

8. What should we do if someone says they are not ready to come out of role?

Let them sit a bit longer
Go to next person and come back
Ask questions about why they want to stay in role
Let them talk to the chairs of the other characters

9. Is it important to ask all the questions listed in the manual?

Absolutely, especially if the scene was challenging or difficult to process
No – depending on how much we feel the participant has taken on the role

10. Can we ask additional questions?

Yes – particularly if the scene was challenging or difficult

11. What should we do if someone remains stuck in role?

Process a bit further while they are still in character
Use a grounding procedure
Offer to sit with them, give them more time

12. What should we look out for post role play?

That they are not in, or slip back into, role
Do they seem withdrawn?
Are the still in character?
Have they been triggered?

ADVANTAGES OF WORKING IN TEAMS

Shared workload mitigates stress / prevent burnout
Generates creativity / problem solving
Use each other's strengths /skills /abilities
Volunteer as have surplus to give / paying it forward
Discipline is self-imposed / 'pushed' to maintain standards
Enables knowledge transfer / skill development
Moral support and feedback / reflection / work made into fun
Friendships / share fuel costs of travel

CHALLENGES OF WORKING IN TEAMS

Different histories / cultural difference / trauma / perspectives / Thinking styles
Difference of opinion / Communication styles
Showing respect for different points of view and reaching agreement
Establishing roles and applying AVP principles
Personalities / Cohesion / conflict /bias / judgement
Line of authority blurred
Varying levels of experience / confidence/ leadership/
Relying on others to carry the load

Editor's note

An AVP WA newsletter is published monthly. If you have any news, photos, inmate contributions or new things you've tried in workshops, please send them to our newsletter editor Selene.

selenemoonbeams@gmail.com

Need more information?

For details of upcoming workshops or facilitator days, to volunteer to help facilitate a workshop, or just to find out more about AVP, please contact our Coordinator Selene.

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