



**Subject:** Spring 2004 AVP New England Report

**Note:** There was no Spring 2004 meeting, but since it was desired to provide current information to the annual AVP/USA meeting, Marianne Winship called up several New England AVP leaders and compiled this report from the phone conversations.

**Maine:** Tracy Booth reports that Maine is in good AVP health. There is a core of about a dozen volunteers, putting on workshops at 3 different facilities. 2 are women's workshops at Cumberland County Jail, and Windham Correctional. The 3rd is a men's prerelease at Bolduc. A workshop is happening on average once a month, dispersed among the facilities. Maine has some funds to do outreach and community Service announcements. Relationships with the prisons are good.

**New Hampshire:** as reported by Judy Brophy, Mary Alice Warner, and Charles Oropallo, has workshops happening at 3 different facilities, with varying success because of shortage of volunteers, and prison red tape. They try to do 6 workshops per year at each facility. The prisons covered are: Lakes Region in Laconia; New Hampshire State Prison for women in Goffstown, and the New Hampshire State Prison for men in Concord. Hopefully things will go more smoothly as the year progresses.

**Vermont:** as reported by Alan Taplow, have not had workshops in 2004. There had been community workshops in 2003. I was unable to reach Judy Varner, who might have more current information.

**Rhode Island:** as reported by Bobbie Houllihan, is conducting no workshops do to shortage of volunteers. An anger management course, which models some AVP principles, is happening in one medium security facility.

**Connecticut:** as reported by Ann Levinger, has its loyal group of Volunteers who live in Amherst MA. They put on Workshops at Osborn Correctional Facility in Connecticut. They occur once a month on average, due to the energy of Claude Tellier and his group. Relationship with the facility is fair.

**Massachusetts:** as reported by Marianne Winship, has AVP workshops going on in 6 prisons, all men's. They include: 1 federal facility, 1 maximum state prison, 1 minimum state center, and 3 medium security facilities. Our programs are thriving, but our volunteers are stretched thin. We have requests from other prisons, which we cannot help with at this time. I think our AVP success and scope peaked around 2001. We hope to hold our Fall New England in one of these places.