



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

**“APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH”**

**WHEREAS,** our children are our most valuable resources and are vital to the future success, prosperity, and quality of life of American Samoa. They are also our most vulnerable citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** every child deserves a safe, stable, and nurturing home in communities that prioritizes their needs and ensures their healthy growth and development; and

**WHEREAS,** the number of child protective services cases in American Samoa continues to grow each year. They have increased by 32% over the last two fiscal years: 655 cases between October 2022 to September 2023 compared to 497 between October 2021 to September 2022); and

**WHEREAS,** child abuse and neglect are serious problems that affect every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

**WHEREAS,** child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and

**WHEREAS,** protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

**WHEREAS,** effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of partnerships fostered and strengthened between public and private professionals that include but are not limited to child welfare, education, health, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement, and families; and


**WHEREAS,** communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; and

**WHEREAS,** we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

**WHEREAS,** prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA,** Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the Month of April 2024 as **NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** in our Territory. I call upon everyone in American Samoa, to observe this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and their families.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty-four.

  
**LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**  
Governor



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**POLOA'IGA FA'ALAU'ITELE**

**“APERILA O LE MASINA E FA'ATĀUA AI LE PUIPUIA O TAMAITI MAI SAUĀGA”**

**TALU AI,** o tatou fanau o a tatou puna'oa pito sili ona tāua, ma e matuā tāua mo le fausia o se lumana'i manuia, atoa ma le tamāo'aiga ma le soifua laulelei o Amerika Samoa. Ua 'avea fo'i latou ma o tatou tagatānu'u pito sili ona taiagofie.

**TALU AI,** e tatau mo fanau ta'ito'atasi se nofoaga saogalemū, mautū, ma se aiga e fa'afailele ai i totonu o se alalafaga e fa'amuamua le fanau ma u'unaia le latou saogalemu ma le māloloina a'o le tuputupu a'e; ma

**TALU AI,** o lo'o si'isi'i pea le aofa'iga o ripoti/ mata'upu na fa'ao'o atu i tautua tau puipuiga mo tamaiti i tausaga uma. Ua aga'i i luga i le 32%: e 655 mata'upu mo fanau sa a'afia i sauāga mai ia Oketopa 1, 2022 – Setema 30, 2023 nai i lo'o o le 497 sa ripotia ia Oketopa 2021 - Setema 2022; ma

**TALU AI,** o le sauāina ma le tu'ulafoaiina o tamaiti o se fa'afitauli ogaoga e a'afia ai vaega uma o alalafaga, ma e mana'omia ai le tofu sao o tagata uma i le sa'iliga o se 'auala e fō'ia ai; ma

**TALU AI,** e mafai ona faa'umi'umi a'afiaga o le sauāina o tamaiti i le mafaufau, i lagona ma le tino, ma 'e mafai ona faa'umi'umi ona a'afia ai ē ua afaina; ma

**TALU AI,** o tulaga e puipui mai ai, o tu'utu'uga ia e fa'aitiitia pe ave'esea ai lamatiaga, ma u'una'ia ai aga mo'omia, lagona ma le tuputupu lelei o le fanau; ma

**TALU AI,** e manuia fa'atinoga o le puipui o tamaiti mai le le sauāina ona o faigāpa'aga i le va o ē o lo'o iai le tomai i le ola lelei o tamaiti, o a'oga, o le soifua maloloina, o alalafaga, o fa'alapotopotoga i Ekalesia, o pisinisi, o le fa'amalosi tulafono, atoa ma 'aīga; ma

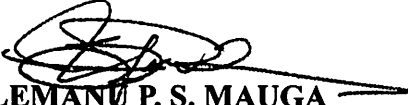
**TALU AI,** e tatau i alalafaga ona matuā taumafai e u'una'ia polokalama ma fa'atinoga e afua mai ai fanau ma 'aīga e malolosi ma ola fiafia; ma

**TALU AI,** e fa'amanatu atu, e ao ona tatou galulue faatasi ina fa'atupula'ia le malamalama auā le puipui o tamaiti mai i le sauāina. Ma ia fai se sao i le u'una'ia o le ola lelei i aga feso'ota'i ma lagona filemu o tamaiti ma aiga i se si'osi'omaga saogalemū, mautū ma lelei le faafaileleina; ma

**TALU AI,** o le nofo-puipuia o se lavea'i sili lea ina ia puipui ai a tatou fanau ma aiga.

**O LEA, O A'U, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**, Kovana o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa, ou te poloa'iina le ave'a o le Masina o Aperila 2024 e fai ma **MASINA O LE PUIPUIGA O FANAU MAI I LE SAUAINA** i lo tatou Teritori. Ou te valaau atu ai i tagata uma i Amerika Samoa, ina ia faamamalaina lenei masina e ala i lo tatou faatinoina o se galuega e faaleleia ai le tulaga aupito manaomia o le olaga mo tamaiti ma aiga uma.

**UA FA'AMĀONIA LENEI POLOA'IGA**, e ala i lo'u saina fa'atasi ai ma fa'amaufa'aailoga a lo'u ofisa, ua faia i le aso 28 of Mati i le tausaga o le Mesia, lua afe lua-sefulu ma le fā.

  
**LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**  
Kovana