



PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA
GOVERNOR

PULUMATAALA AE AE JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA 96799
Telephone: (684) 633-4116 | (684) 633-4121

PROCLAMATION

**“NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH”
APRIL 2025**

- WHEREAS**, children are our nation's most vulnerable members and our most valuable resources, helping to shape the future of American Samoa; and
- WHEREAS**, positive childhood experiences such as loving caregivers along with safe, stable, and nurturing relationships can help mitigate trauma and the negative impact of adverse childhood experiences and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and
- WHEREAS**, childhood trauma can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects throughout an individual's lifetime and impact future generations of their family; and
- WHEREAS**, children who live in families with access to concrete economic and social support are less likely to experience abuse and/or neglect; and
- WHEREAS**, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, is a serious problem affecting every community in the United States, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and
- WHEREAS**, the number of child protective services cases in American Samoa continues to grow each year. They have increased by 23% over the last two fiscal years: 809 cases between October 2023 to September 2024 compared to 655 between October 2022 to September 2023; and
- WHEREAS**, prevention is possible because of the partnerships that are fostered between families and various other stakeholders including but not limited to the Department of Human and Social Services, prevention advocates, child welfare professionals, education, health, community, non-profit organizations, faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies; and
- WHEREAS**, we acknowledge that to solve the public health issue of abuse and neglect we must work together to change hearts and mindsets through storytelling and sharing, center the needs of families, break down bias and barriers, and inspire action from expected and unexpected partners in prevention; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to advancing equitable, responsive, and effective systems that ensure all children and families are healthy and thriving; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the need to prioritize kids and invest in more prevention initiatives like home visiting and family-strengthening initiatives, economic assistance programs, and community-based child welfare services and abuse prevention programs at the national, state, and territorial levels; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PULAALI'NI NIKOLAO PULA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the Month of April 2025 as **NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** in our Territory. I call upon everyone in American Samoa, to observe this month by building a narrative of hope for children and families through collaboration and the creation of an ecosystem of primary prevention.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the Seal of my office on this 31st day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-five.


PULAALI'NI NIKOLAO PULA
Governor



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POLOAIGA FA'ALAU'AITELE

**“O LE MĀSINA E FA'ATĀUA AI LE PUIPUIA O TAMAITI MAI SAUĀGA”
APERILA 2025**

- TALU AI,** o a tatou fanau o a tatou totino pito taiagofie, ma o a tatou puna'oa pito sili ona tāua. O le fanau, o le lumana'i o Amerika Samoa; ma
- TALU AI,** o se olaga fa'atamaitiiti e aputiputi lelei, e pei o le tausī e ni tagata alolofa, ma le iai o ni ona so'otaga saogalemu, mautū, ma o fa'afailele lelei e mafai ona fesoasoani e fa'aitiitia a'afiaga tūgā o se fa'alavelave na pagātia ai. Atoa ai ma ni tulaga matuiā na o'o i ai a o itiiti. 'Ae e u'unaia agafeso'otai, lagona, ma le olaola lelei o tamaiti; ma
- TALU AI,** o a'afiaga tūgā e pagātia ai a o tamaiti e mafai ona fa'a'umi'umi ni ona mafatiaga fa'asaikolosi, i le mafaufau, i lagona, ma ni a'afiaga i le tino i le olaga atoa o le tamaititi. Ma e mafai ona a'afia ai tupulaga o fai mai o lea aiga; ma
- TALU AI,** o tamaiti e ola i aiga e mautū le tamaoaiga ma o lo'o iai tagata e tutū mo i latou, e laititi atu le avanoa e ono o'o ai i se olaga sauāina ma le tu'ulafoai'ina; ma
- TALU AI,** o a'afiaga tūgā sa pagātia ai a o tamaitiiti, e aofia ai le sauaina ma le tu'ulafoai'ina, o ni fa'afitauli ogaoga ua mafatia ai alalafaga uma i le Iunaite Setete, ma o le sailia o ni fofō e manaomia ai le sao ma ni fa'atinoga mai tagata uma; ma
- TALU AI,** o lo'o fa'atupula'ia pea le numera o mataupu tau 'au'aunaga e puipuia ai tamaiti i Amerika Samoa i tausaga ta'itasi. Ua si'itia i le 23% mai i le tausaga fa'aletupe e lua ua tuanai atu: 809 mataupu na fa'ato'ai mai i le va o Oketopa 2023 ma Setema 2024 e fa'atusatusa i le 655 i le va o Oketopa 2022 ma Setema 2023; ma
- TALU AI,** o se tulaga e mafai ona fo'ia ona o le faigapa'aga o lo'o so'oso'otau'au ai aiga ma isi soatau, e aofia ai, 'ae e lē gata ai i le Matāgaluega Tautua ma Alagamanuia mo Tagata Lautele, o ē e tula'i mo lē nofo puipuia, o ē e iai le tomā fa'apitoa mo le ola laulelei o le fanau, o ā'oga, o le soifua maloloina, o alalafaga, o fa'alapotopotoga e lē sa'ilia porofiti, fa'alapotopotoga tau fa'atuatua, pisinisi, ofisa fa'amalosi tulafono; ma

TALU AI, matou te fa'ailoa atu o le fofoina o le fa'afitauli tau le soifua maloloina lautele o le sauaina ma le tu'ulafoai'ina, e tataua ona tatou galulue fa'atasi ai e suia lotu ma ituaiga mafauafau e ala i le fa'amatala o tala ma le fa'asoa atu, fa'a'ogātotonu o manaoga o aiga, talepe i lalo manatu fa'apito ma aupa, ma fa'aosofia ni fa'atinoga e fo'ia ai mai ni pa'aga masani ma nisi e fou atu; ma

TALU AI, ua tatou mautū ma mautinoa i le tatou lagolago ma le u'una'ia faiga lē fa'aitū'au, talileleia, faiga aogā ina ia mautinoa ai le maloloina ma le ola malaulau o fanau ma aiga uma; ma

TALU AI, tatou te fa'atāuaina le mana'omia o le fa'amuumua o fanau, ma tu'uavanoa i ni faiga ma tulaga e saga puipui ai i latou. E pei o polokalama e asiasi atu i aiga, fa'ata'atia ni faigafa'avae e fa'amalosia ai aiga, lagolago tau le tamaoiga, ma polokalama i alalafaga ma potopotoga e puipuia mai ai i le sauāina o tamaiti i le atunu'u atoa, i le teritori, atoa ma le lotoifale; ma

ONA O LEA, O A'U, PULAALI' I NIKOLAO PULA, Kovana o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa, ua ou poloa'iina le avea le Māsina o Aperila 2025 e fai ma Māsina **O LE PUIPUIGA O TAMAITI MAI SAUĀGA** i lo tatou teritori. Ma e talosaga atu i tagata uma i Amerika Samoa ina ia fa'amamalu lenei masina e ala i le talatalagia o le fa'amoemoe mo fanau ma aiga, i le galulue so'oso'otau'au, ma fa'atu se faiga fa'avae e saga fa'atāua ma puipui o a tatou puna'oa i le fanau.

I LONA MOLIMAUINA, ua ou tu'uina atu ai la'u saina ma le fa'ailoga o lo'u ofisa i le aso lenei 31 o Mati, i le tausaga o lo tatou Alii e lua afe ma le lua-sefulu ma le lima.


PULAALI' I NIKOLAO PULA
Kovana