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Governor Lemanu P.S. Mauga Receives \$2, 495, 561 for Essential Projects in American Samoa

On April 18, 2024, Governor Lemanu P.S. Mauga received a letter from Assistant Secretary Carmen G. Cantor of Insular and International Affairs, conveying the news that American Samoa has been granted \$2, 495, 561 through the Office of Insular Affairs' (OIA's) Technical Assistance Program (TAP) for fiscal year (FY) 2024. Notably, \$1,488,400 of these funds are allocated for essential projects aimed at enhancing various sectors within the American Samoa Government and its associated entities.

The grants, administered by the OIA, are designated for the following projects:

- **\$350,000 to the Technology Office** under the Office of the Governor for the Physical Addressing System project;
- **\$250,000 to the Department of Commerce** for the American Samoa Innovation & Technology Campus Infrastructure: Roads, Drainage & Utilities Coordination project;
- **\$206,400 to the Department of Health** for the Smiles of American Samoa project, facilitating the acquisition of two new dental chairs and dental equipment;
- **\$200,000 to the Department of Corrections** for the Improving Technical Services and Security project;
- **\$130,000 to the Department of Commerce** for the ArcGIS Distributed Collaboration project;
- **\$125,000 to the Department of Health** for the Improving Environmental Health: Mold and Water Testing initiative;

- \$120,000 to the Department of Port Administration for the Port Planning project;
- **\$82,000 to the Territorial Audit Office** for Enhancing Training Opportunities for Office Staff; and
- **\$25,000 to the Department of Education** for the 2025 VEX Robotics World Championship Grant project.

Furthermore, the OIA is allocating \$1,007,161 in TAP funding to semi-autonomous agencies, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to support American Samoa, with allocations for projects including:

- **\$295,703 to the Development Bank of American Samoa** for the Computer Network Systems and Cybersecurity project;
- **\$260,000 to the American Samoa Community College** for the Apprentice Workforce Development (AWD) program, Phase II;
- **\$160,250 to the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority** for the DC Power Supply Backup System for CO Sites project;
- **\$150,000 to the Boys and Girls Club of American Samoa** for the Rise Up: Mobilizing the Youth Climate Leaders Generation project;
- **\$108,000 to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for American Samoa Power Authority** Risk Reduction Technical Support and Capacity Building for Current Water Treatment projects; and
- **\$33,208 to the Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medical Center** for Pharmacy Department Workforce training.

Governor Lemanu expresses his gratitude to Assistant Secretary Carmen G. Cantor and the OIA for their support in advancing these critical initiatives. He emphasizes the importance of collaborative efforts in driving progress and prosperity for the people of American Samoa.