



For Official Release
PR002-07002025
Office of the Governor
Utulei, American Samoa
July 07, 2025

PRESS RELEASE

Groundbreaking Ceremony Held for Aunu'u Island Community Health Center

AUNU'U, American Samoa – On July 3rd, in a brief but intimate ceremony, the island of Aunu'u in partnership with the Department of Health (DOH), held a groundbreaking event for the new Aunu'u Island Community Health Center. This milestone marks the beginning of expanded access to healthcare services for the residents of Aunu'u.

Governor Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula and First Lady Lois Phillips-Pula, joined by members of the Fono and Cabinet officials, made the journey across the waters to the island to participate in this momentous occasion.

In his special remarks, Governor Pulaali'i extended heartfelt congratulations to the Department of Health and especially to the people of Aunu'u. "This is the beginning of something special for your island," he said. "This new facility will bring essential and accessible healthcare to the people of Aunu'u, ensuring that every person receives medical treatment when needed"

Governor Pulaali'i also noted the significance of this day, as it coincided with the christening of the DOH emergency medical vessel, further symbolizing the collective effort to deliver quality healthcare services to every part of American Samoa. "It is truly a blessing from God that we are here today. With this center and the new medical vessel, the resources needed to strengthen our healthcare system are coming together, and we are seeing the vision unfold," he added.



The construction of the Aunu'u Island Community Health Center has been awarded to PJ Corporation. This project is part of the broader American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) initiatives that the American Samoa Government is fast-tracking to ensure completion before the federal deadline.

The ceremony concluded with a symbolic groundbreaking led by Governor Pulaali'i, First Lady Lois, and key leaders, signifying the official start of construction.

This new medical facility represents a critical step in expanding health equity and delivering the care to our people in Aunu'u.

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