



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) 633-4121

PROCLAMATION

**DHSS CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF THE AMERICAN SAMOA CHILD CARE
PROGRAM FROM OCTOBER 1, 1995 TO OCTOBER 1, 2025**

October 2025

- WHEREAS,** parents have no greater responsibility than their children, the precious gifts from God entrusted to their care and protection. For millions of families across the United States and its Territories, child care is an increasingly important issue. With growing numbers of single-parent families and the rising proportion of mothers who need to work outside of their two-parent homes, more and more parents are seeking help in caring for their children; and
- WHEREAS,** child care is a vital industry that supports healthy families and a strong economy. Child care providers and early childhood educators are essential to providing quality and safe child care; and
- WHEREAS,** quality early care and learning programs honor and celebrate the cultural identity, language, and overall healthy development of children; and
- WHEREAS,** child care providers, parents, government, businesses, community organizations, and other community members are key stakeholders. For ensuring that quality child care is affordable and inclusive for families; and
- WHEREAS,** the Child Care and Development Fund is a federal grant award, which supports child development and improves family financial well-being, by helping parents pay for child care so parents can work, participate in education and training activities, or actively seek employment; and
- WHEREAS,** the American Samoa Government received its first Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) grant award of \$8,777 in fiscal year 1996, which started on October 1, 1995. This inaugural CCDF award created the American Samoa Child Care Program, which in turn created the child care market for the Territory that began with 10 child care centers, and
- WHEREAS,** the evolution of family dynamics and their increasing economic needs through the years underscored the importance of a family's ability to access quality child care. We applaud the dedication and commitment of child care professionals who are passionate about building a better future for American Samoa by nurturing and

caring for our children so their parents can improve financial security and their economic self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, thirty (30) years later, the American Samoa Child Care Program serves a monthly average of over 850 low-income families who need child care assistance so they can work, participate in education and training activities, or actively seek employment. Today, the CCDF award provides over \$13 million in new money that is infused into our economy to increase access to quality child care options, as well as create and sustain jobs. Today, child care subsidies range from \$600 to \$975 per month; and

WHEREAS, thirty (30) years later, a monthly average of more than 1,500 children, from birth to less than 13 years old, are enrolled in almost 55 child care centers in Tutuila and Aunu'u. On average, children spend 12 hours a day with their child care provider; and

WHEREAS, thirty (30) years later, the CCDF remains the sole source of funding for the child care market, and all the child care providers in the Territory came into existence intent on becoming authorized for the American Samoa Child Care Program. As an authorized child care provider, they are required to meet and maintain health, safety, and other quality requirements to ensure quality care for all children; and

WHEREAS, our future depends on the quality of the early childhood experiences provided to young children today, and investment to amplify quality early child care services represent a worthy commitment to our children's future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim starting October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, let us celebrate "30 Years of the American Samoa Child Care Program". I encourage everyone to join me in recognizing and honoring our parents, providers, service partners, and other key child care stakeholders who have dedicated themselves to supporting families and children throughout thirty-years of exemplary service to our Territory.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 30th day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-five.



PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA
Governor



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POLOAIGA FA'ALAU'AITELE

**"FA'AMANATU LE 30 TAUSAGA O LE TAUTUA A LE POLOKALAMA
MO LE TAUSIGA O ALO MA FANAU I AMERIKA SAMOA MA IA
OKETOPA 1, 1995 AGA'I IA OKETOPA 1, 2025!"**

- TALUAI,** e leai se matāfaioi a mātua e sili atu nai lo le tausiga o le fanau, o meaalofo tāua mai Le Atua ua tu'uina mai ina ia tatou tausī fa'apelepele ma puipui iai latou. O lona faitau- aofa'i ua ta'i miliona aiga i Amerika ma ona Teritori o lo'o fa'atauaina le tausiga o alo ma fanau. Ona o le fa'atupula'ia o fuainumera o aiga e ta'ito'atasi mātua atoa ma le to'atele o aiga o lo'o mana'omia ona taufai faigaluega uma mātua e to'alua, ma o lo o toatele pea aiga ma mātua o lo'o mana'omia le fesoasoani mo le tausiga o le fanau; ma
- TALUAI,** o le tausiga o le fanau i nofoaga tausī (child care) o se tasi lea o ma'atulimanu e sapaapaia aiga māloloīna, ae maise fo'i le tamā'o'aiga mo le manuia o aiga ma le atunu'u. E tāua tele fo'i e o lo'o gafa ma le tausiga lelei o le fanau ina ia latou saogalemu; ma
- TALUAI,** o le tausiga ma le a'oa'oina o le fanau-iti e fa'amamalu ma fa'atāua ai le aganu'u, le lotonu'u, le gagana, atoa ma le soifua māloloīna lelei o le fanau; ma
- TALUAI,** o i latou o lo o gafa ma nofoaga tausī (child care), mātua, o le mālo, o pisinisi, o fa'alapotopotoga, atoa ma sui 'ese'ese o si o tatou atunu'u o lo'o fa'amoemoe iai ina ia sili ona lelei le tausiga o le fanau, ae maise fo'i ia avanoa ma ia taugofie ina mafai ona 'auai ai so'o se aiga o lo'o mana'omia; ma
- TALUAI,** o le alagatupe mai le Mālo Tele e ta'ua o le Child Care and Development Fund na te sapaapaia le ola tuputupu a'e o le fanau atoa ma le manuia o le tamā'o'aiga o latou aiga, e ala lea i le fesoasoani i mātua mo le totogiina o le tausiga o le fanau ina ia mafai ona faigaluega mātua. E fesoasoani fo'i lea tautua ina ia mafai ona 'auai atu mātua i a'oa'oga, pe aga'i atu fo'i e sa'ili galuega; ma
- TALUAI,** o le tausaga fa'aletupe 1996, sa amata ia Oketopa 1, 1995, o le tausaga muamua lea sa fa'amanuiaina ai le Mālo o Amerika Samoa i le alagatupe o le Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). Ma o lona aofa'iga i lea ulua'i tausaga e \$8,777.

O le ulua'i fa'amanuiaga lea sa afua mai i le Polokalama mo le Tausiga o Alo ma Fanau i Amerika Samoa, po o le American Samoa Child Care Program. E le gata i lea, 'ae sa afua mai ai foi nisi o pisinisi fou e fa'asinotonu i le tausiga o le fanau o lo'o agava'a o latou mātua mo lea Polokalama. Sa amatalia ai i lenā tausaga muamua e ni pisinisi e to'asefulu, po o child care centers; ma

TALUAI, ona o suiga o aiga i nei ona po, ua fa'ateleina ai le mana'omia o se tamā'o'aiga talafeagai, ma ua atili ai fo'i ona tāua le tautua o le tausiga o le fanau (child care). O lea, e patipatia ai le fa'amaoni o faipisinisi ma o latou faia'oga o i latou ia o lo'o feagai ma lea matafaioi tāua tele lava. O le naunau pea mo le fausia o se lumana'i manuia mo Amerika Samoa e ala i le fa'afaiileleina o le fanau ina ia mafai e mātua ona fa'aleleia atili tulaga o le tamā'o'aiga mo nai o latou aiga; ma

TALUAI, i le tolu sefulu (30) tausaga talu mai lona fa'avaeina i Amerika Samoa, pe a ma le 850 mātua ma aiga o lo'o 'auai i le Polokalama mo le Tausiga o Alo ma Fanau i Amerika Samoa i masina taitasi. O nei mātua ua mafai ona 'auai atu i galuega, a'ao'oga, pe agai atu fo'i e sa'ili galuega 'ae ave le fanau i nofoaga tausi sa o latou filifilia. I le tausaga fa'aletupe lenei, o lea alagatupe o le CCDF, ua sili atu i le \$13 miliona le tupe fou ua fa'aopoopo i le tamā'o'aiga o le Teritori ina ia fa'alauteleina lea 'au'aunaga mo mātua 'ae maise le fanau. O lea alagatupe ua maua ai foi ma galuega fou ma ua mafai ona fa'aaauu pea. I le asō, o tupe e totogiina e le Polokalama mo le tausiga o le fanau i nofoaga tausi, e \$600 aga'i i le \$975 i tamaitiiti i le masina; ma

TALUAI, i le tolu sefulu (30) tausaga talu mai lona fa'avaeina i Amerika Samoa, e sili atu ma le 1,500 tamaiti e i lalo ifo o le 13 tausaga le matutua o lo'o tausia i nofoaga tausi e 55 i Tutuila ma Aunu'u. Pe a ma le 12 itula o le aso e feagai ai le fanau ma latou faia'oga i nofoaga tausi nei; ma

TALUAI, i le tolu sefulu (30) tausaga talu mai lona fa'avaeina i Amerika Samoa, ua na o le CCDF o lo'o fa'atupeina ai pisinisi uma o lo'o gafa ma le tausiga ma le a'oa' oina o le fanau (child care) po o nofoaga tausi. Ma o pisinisi po o nofoaga tausi uma lava sa amatalia ma le fa'amoemoe ina ia mafai ona 'auai i le Polokalama, po o le American Samoa Child Care Program. Ma e ao i pisinisi po o nofoaga tausi nei ona 'ausia ma tumau le usita'ia o tulafono mo le puipuia o le saogalemu ma le soifua maloloina o le fanau, faapea ma isi aiaiga mo le Polokalama.

TALUAI, o se lumana'i manuia mo Amerika Samoa e fa'amoemoe i le manuia ma le maualā o le ola tuputupua'e o le fanau. O le fa'ataua ma fa'alelei atili o le fa'afaiileleina o le fanau o lo'o tatou sao sili lea mo le lumana'i.

ONA O LEA, O A'U, PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA, Kovana o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa, ou te poloa'ia ai e amata mai ia Oketopa 1, 2025 seia aulia Setema 30, 2026, tatou te fa'amanatu ai le "30 Tausaga o le Tautua o le Polokalama mo le Tausiga o Alo ma Fanau i Amerika Samoa." Ma ou te talosaga atu i tagata nu'u uma ina ia fa'ataua le sao o mātua, faia'oga o lo'o gafa ma le fanau i nofoaga tausi, nisi o Polokalama ma pa'aga o lo'o tautuaina le atunu'u, 'ae maise fo'i nisi o sui 'ese • ese. O e uma o lo'o galulue punoua'i ina ia si'itia ma fa'alelei atili le tausiga o le fanau ina ia fa'asino-tonu mo le manuia o le fanau, fa'afaigofie mo aiga, talafeagai mo e o lo'o gafa ma le tausiga o le fanau, atoa ma le sapaapaia tagata faigaluega.

I LONA MOLIMAUINA, ua ou tu'uina ai lo'u lima atoa ma le fa'ailoga o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa ina ia fa'amauiina i le aso lenei 30 o Setema, i le tausaga o lo tatou Ali'i, lua afe ma le lua-sefulu ma le lima.


PULAALI'I NIKOLAO PULA
Kovana