



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**PROCLAMATION  
“NATIONAL WIC BREASTFEEDING WEEK  
August 1 – 7, 2024”**

**WHEREAS,** the U.S. Department of Agriculture and cooperating State health departments, Territories, and Tribal organizations celebrate 50 years of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children improving pregnancy outcomes and health and developmental outcomes of children; and

**WHEREAS,** in American Samoa, the Department of Human and Social Services (DHSS) is the lead agency administering the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), which includes breastfeeding promotion and empowering WIC participants to meet their individual breastfeeding goals by providing tailored, evidence-based WIC food packages along with WIC Breastfeeding Support; and

**WHEREAS,** the American Samoa WIC (ASWIC) Program employs mothers who have breastfeeding experience as Breastfeeding Peer Counselors to offer breastfeeding education, support, and role modeling using the Breastfeeding Support evidence-based model as its framework; and

**WHEREAS,** breastfeeding remains the most natural way of feeding infants and serves as part of a foundation for lifelong health and wellness; and

**WHEREAS,** the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends exclusive breastfeeding so your infant can receive the full nutritional and non-nutritional benefits that breastmilk provides for their growth and development; and

**WHEREAS,** infants receiving human milk are protected against serious long-term health conditions including obesity, respiratory and ear infections, asthma, allergies, diarrhea, childhood cancer, sudden infant death syndrome, and less-than-optimal brain development; and

**WHEREAS,** breastfeeding promotes strong family bonds while providing economic and societal benefits through lowered healthcare costs; and

**WHEREAS,** a united effort is needed from businesses, communities, governmental leaders, and healthcare providers to support breastfeeding; and

**WHEREAS,** the DHSS American Samoa Women, Infants, and Children’s (ASWIC) Program will promote the 2024 World Breastfeeding Week theme of “CLOSING THE GAP: BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT FOR ALL!” Breastfeeding significantly improves the survival, health, and well-being of infants, children, and mothers. Together, we all need to emphasize the importance of supporting breastfeeding for everyone, especially during times of emergencies and crises; and

**WHEREAS,** government and businesses are encouraged to ensure that working mothers have an appropriate place and reasonable break times to express breast milk for their nursing child. Also, communities can support existing laws that protect a mother’s right to breastfeed her child in any public location.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA,** Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the week of August 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 as “WIC BREASTFEEDING WEEK”, as promoted by ASWIC in American Samoa. I call upon all government, business leaders, and health professionals to celebrate with appropriate events and activities to acknowledge with gratitude the efforts of breastfeeding mothers, as well as fathers and everyone else who supports, encourages, and assist mothers to succeed in breastfeeding.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 24 day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four.



**LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**  
Governor



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AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**POLOAIGA FA'ALAU'AITELE**

**“FA'ATĀUA AI LE FAFAGAINA O PEPE I LE SUĀSUSU O TINĀ**

**Aukuso 1 – 7, 2024”**

- TALUAI,** o le Ofisa o Fa'ato'aga a le Iunaite Sitete fa'apea ma Matāgaluega mo le soifua mālōlōina a Sitete, atoa ai ma a Teritori ma fa'alapotopotoga a Initia ua fa'amanatuina le 50 tausaga o le Polokalama Fa'aopoopo e Fa'apitoa mo Taumafa e Fitoitonu mo Tinā, Pepe, ma le Fanau (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) ina ia fa'alelei atili ma manuia tinā ma itaga atoa ma le soifua mālōlōina ma le ola tuputupua'e a le fanau; ma
- TALUAI,** o lo'o fa'afoea e le Matāgaluega Tautua ma Alagamanuia mo Tagata Lautele le Polokalama Fa'aopoopo e Fa'apitoa mo Taumafa e Fitoitonu mo Tinā, Pepe, ma le Fanau (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)) mo Amerika Samoa, ma e aofia ai le fa'atāua o le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā ma e fa'amalosi'au atu i e o lo'o tatuaina e le WIC ina ia 'ausia sini ua fa'atulagaina mo le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā fa'apenā ma paketi o meatausami e ala mai i le WIC ma fesoasoani a le WIC Breastfeeding Support; ma
- TALUAI,** i Amerika Samoa, ua fa'afaigaluega i le Polokalama a le ASWIC nisi o tinā o lo'o iai le tomai ma agava'a i le fafagaina o a latou pepe e avea ma faufautua e a'oa'o ma fa'asoa atu i isi tinā mo le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu. E le gata i lea, o nei faufautua latou te sapaapaia ma avea ma faata'ita'iga lelei i le fa'aaogāina o su'esu'ega o mau-faavae O le Fafagaina o Pepe i le Suāsusu o Tinā Sapaapaia (WIC Breastfeeding Support); ma
- TALUAI,** o le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā, o lo'o tumau pea ma auala masani o le fafagaina o pepe ma e fa'avae ai se ola mālōlōina ma manuia mo lona olaga atoa; ma
- TALUAI,** o le fafagaina o pepe na'o le suāsusu o le tinā, ua fautuaina ma lagolagoina e Asosaiete o Foma'i mo Tamāiti i Amerika, ina ia maua atoatoa ai penefiti auā le ola tuputupua'e o le pepe; ma
- TALUAI,** o le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā e puipui mai ai i latou mai nisi o fa'afitauli o le soifua mālōlōina e aofia ai tino mamafa, inifeti o le māmā ma taliga, sela, inifeti o le tino, manava tatā, kanesa o fanau laiti, mafuaaga maluu faafuase'i o Pepe (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome), ma a'afiaga o le fai'ai a le pepe; ma,

**TALUAI,** o le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā e tapu’e malosi ai mafutaga fa’aaiga ma e taugofie ma fa’aititia ai le tamāoaiga e fa’amaumau mo le tausiga o le soifua mālōlōina; ma

**TALUAI,** o le galulue va’ava’alua e mana’omia ai le tautua a pisinisi, nu’u, ta’ita’i o mālō ma latou o ofoina le tautua mo le soifua mālōlōina ina ia sapaapaia le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā; ma

**TALUAI,** o le Matāgaluega Tautua ma Alagāmanuia mo Tagata Lautele ma lona Polokalama o le WIC e fitoitonu i tinā, pepe ma fanau laiti i Amerika Samoa, o le a fa’alauiloa ai le autū mo le Vaiaso e Faatāua le Fafagaina o Pepe i le Suāsusu o Tinā e le Lalolagi i le 2024 - “IA FA’AITIITIA LE VA: IA LAGOLAGOSUA TAGATA UMA LAVA MO LE FAFAGAINA O PEPE I LE SUĀSUSU O TINĀ! O le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā e matuā fa’alelei atili ai le ola, soifua mālōlōina, ma le manuia o pepe, fanau laiti, ma tinā. Ia tatou tūtū fa’ataasi e fa’alauiloa lea fe’au tāua, ‘aemaise lava i taimi o fa’alavelave ma fa’afitauli e tula’i fa’afuase’i mai; ma

**TALUAI,** o le mālō ma pisinisi ia mautinoa le tu’uina atu o se avanoa mo tinā faigaluega ia maua se nofoaga fa’apea ma taimi mālōlō e talafeagai mo le fafagaina o a latou pepe. E le gata i lea, e mafai e nu’u ona lagolagoina tulafono o lo’o iai nei o lo’o puipui ai āiā tataua a le tinā mo le fafagaina o lana pepe i so’o se nofoaga faitele; ma

**ONA O LEA, O A’U, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA,** Kovana o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa, ua ou poloa’ia ai le vaiaso o Aukuso 1-7, 2024 e “Faatāuaina le Fafagaina o Pepe i le Suāsusu o Tinā”. Ma i Amerika Samoa nei o le a galulue le ASWIC ma ona pa’aga ina ia fa’alau’itele leni fe’au tāua. Ou te vala’au atu i ta’ita’i uma o le mālō ma pisinisi fa’apea i latou uma o galulue i faiva fa’apitoa i le tausiga o le soifua mālōlōina ia fa’amanatu leni vaiaso e ala i sauniga ma tapenaga talafeagai e aloa’ia ai ma le agaga fa’afetai taumafaiga a tinā uma, tamā, aiga, o e o lo’o tausia le soifua mālōlōina atoa ma e uma o lagolagoina leni tautua, ma fa’amalosi ma fesoasoani ina ia manuia leni faamoemoe mo tinā.

**I LONA MOLIMAUINA,** ua ou tuuina ai la’u saina ma le faailoga o lo’u tofiga i le aso leni 24 o Iulai, i le tausaga o lo tatou Alii e lua afe ma le lua-sefulu ma le fa.



**LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**  
Kovana