

PROCLAMATION AUGUST IS NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE MONTH

"Rowing Together for a Healthier Tomorrow"

- WHEREAS, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are the leading causes of deaths, illnesses, and disabilities in American Samoa, undermining health and sustainable development in our island; and
- WHEREAS, the global community including the Territory of American Samoa has recognized the devastating impacts of NCDs and has declared NCDs a crisis that requires a whole of government and society approach to address the issue; and
- WHEREAS, the American Samoa Government has progressed from political commitment to action by setting national targets, specific goals, objectives, and evidence based and cost-effective strategies in the revised American Samoa Territorial NCD Prevention and Control Strategic Plan of action 2025-2030 (the "Territorial NCD Plan"); and
- WHEREAS, collaboration across all sectors and between the government and civil society is key to the effective implementation of the Territorial NCD Plan to prevent and control NCDs, promote and protect public health, and attain national health targets; and
- WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a governance framework that can coordinate strategies and interventions across sectors to address NCSs, allowing stakeholders among these sectors to work together to develop and implement appropriate and effective strategies, policies, and procedures; and
- WHEREAS, the Department of Health and LBJ Medical Treatment Center have leading roles in responding to the NCD challenges; however, other government sectors, civil society, and private sector have to be part of the response to ensure mobilization of sufficient resources as they have essential roles in creating environments conducive to positive health behavior and outcomes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, by virtue of the authority vested in me under American Samoa and United States Laws, do hereby proclaim this month of August 2024, as "American Samoa Non-Communicable Diseases Month" in the Territory of American Samoa, and urge all citizens to show their support for the fight again NCDs.

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

Governor