



SAMOA VICTIM SUPPORT GROUP TOOMAGA MO E PUAPUAGATIA

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SAMOA VICTIM SUPPORT GROUP MEDIA RELEASE SUPPORTING COMMUNITY ACKNOWLEDGED

Samoa Victim Support Group once again hosted a 'family night' to remember on Wednesday, 4 May 2016 at the EFKS Youth Hall Sogi. The occasion was to celebrate the successful completion of various counseling programs undertaken by male offenders of violence referred from the Family Court. It was the 4th Graduation Ceremony held for rehabilitated men and women referred to SVSG Advocacy Programs.

Of close to 100 men who have completed relevant counseling programs from late 2015 to April 2016, nearly 80 of them turned up to acknowledge the support of their wives and children, who have stood behind them throughout their journey.

The Chief Justice, His Honor Patū Tiavaasue Falefatu Sapolu gave a fitting keynote address for the invited guests, families, friends and supporters of SVSG that crowded the Youth Hall.

The strength of a community with a united stance to end violence against women and children, was apparent during the celebration. The graduating men walked tall towards their seats, they later knelt in front of their wives during some of the testimonies shared, with the finale seeing the Chief Justice, the Judiciary and the invited guests dancing in celebration of reformed men.

For SVSG, the reward is knowing that its work contributes to the enjoyment of safer family environment for our people. For the Advocacy Program, we wouldn't be able to achieve this much work without the assistance from our supporting partners: Congregational Christian Church of Samoa, Bluebird Lumber & Hardware, Ah Liki Wholesale, Chan Mow Wholesale, Digicel (Samoa), Bluesky (Samoa), Business Systems Limited, Samoa Stationery & Books, Apia Business Machine, Western Union Money Transfer, ANZ Bank (Samoa), Mercy Shop, Pat Ah Him Store, Le Vai Company, Tara Ice, KK Mart and PATE Hirage.

"Fa'afetai tele lava Samoa for your continued support. Thank you for the belief, the trust and the prayers." Siliniu Lina Chang, SVSG President

Aspiring for a Samoa Society where victims of crime are respected, supported and cared for with love and compassion & advocating for their rights & rehabilitation of their lives

"For every Victim of Crime to achieve a Better Quality of Life"

AWARDS:

2014 Nominated Person of the Year – Savali Newspaper

2013 Group of the Year – Samoa Newline

2012 Woman of Courage Award – U.S Government Global Women's Initiative

2012 Person of the Year – Samoa Newline

2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 Nominated Person of the Year – Samoa Observer

2015: Appreciation Award – APTC

2016: Voice of the Voiceless Award – 2nd Annual CSO Awards