



SAMOA VICTIM SUPPORT GROUP TOOMAGA MO E PUAPUAGATIA

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MEDIA RELEASE

SVSG Marks the End of 16 Days of Activism on World Human Rights Day, Concluding 9 Days of Novena for Peace and Protection

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Apia, Samoa

As the world observes Human Rights Day, the Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) joins the global call to uphold the dignity, safety, and rights of every person—especially women and children who remain vulnerable to violence within our communities.

Today also marks the end of the international 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, a campaign in which SVSG has stood alongside families, churches, schools, youth groups, and partners to advocate for safer homes and a violence-free Samoa.

This important global observance coincides with the completion of SVSG's 9 Days of Novena for fasting and prayer, held in faith and unity across our networks. These nine days were dedicated to seeking God's guidance, healing, and protection for victims of violence and for the strengthening of families throughout Samoa.

SVSG President Siliniu Lina Chang reflected on the significance of today's milestone: *"As we end the 16 Days of Activism on this World Human Rights Day, we are reminded that every person deserves to live free from fear and harm. Through prayer, advocacy, and community action, we continue our mission to protect the vulnerable and champion the rights of all. Our work does not end today—it is a year-round commitment."*

SVSG acknowledges the tremendous support of all partners, supporters, church leaders, volunteers, and youth advocates who have walked alongside the organization throughout this campaign. Your contributions have strengthened the national effort to end violence and restore hope to those in need.

While the 16 Days campaign concludes, SVSG's fight against violence continues every day, guided by compassion, faith, and the belief that every life is precious.

END

Ensuring that victims of crime and those in need are well supported to be safe and in control to restore their lives

2016: *With and for Girls Award – Star Foundation of London*

2017: *Innovation & Excellence Team Award – Samoa Public Service*

2018: *Finalist, International Children's Peace Prize 2018 – Kids Right Foundation of Amsterdam, Netherlands*

2018: *Human Rights Champion in Samoa – UNESCO*

2019: *Innovation for Sustainable Development Award – Commonwealth Secretary-General*

2020: *Nominated Person(s) of the Year – Samoa Observer*

2021: *Outstanding Contributions to Human Rights Promotion & Protection – Samoa Office of the Ombudsman/NHRI*

2023: *Healthy Islands Best Proposal Award – World Health Organization*

2026 *Noble Peace Prize Nomination*