

MEDIA RELEASE

Chanel College First School in Upolu for Mental Health and Drug Awareness program by SVSG Youth

03 October 2025

Apia:

The Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) Youth continued its *Mental Health and Drug Abuse Awareness Program* today under the CFLI (Canada Fund for Local Initiatives) Project, with Chanel College becoming the first mission school in Upolu to participate.

Through interactive sessions, students were engaged in discussions on mental health and drug abuse, equipping them with knowledge to make safe and healthy choices. The sessions also highlighted the dangers of drug abuse on mental wellbeing and its contribution to violence and child abuse in Samoa.

Chanel College acknowledged the value of the initiative, thanking SVSG Youth for prioritizing the wellbeing of Samoa's future leaders and for their commitment to saving lives through education and awareness.

"By reaching young people through awareness and education, we are helping to safeguard the future of Samoa," said SVSG President, Siliniu Lina Chang. "We are grateful to the CFLI Project for supporting this program and to Chanel College for being the first school in Upolu for this very important initiative."

The SVSG Youth Mental Health and Drug Abuse Awareness Program will continue to roll out across more schools, building knowledge and resilience among Samoa's young people.

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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