



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PROCLAMATION

“2023 AMERICAN RED CROSS AMERICAN SAMOA CENTENNIAL”

WHEREAS, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross more than 140 years ago to prevent and alleviate human suffering; and

WHEREAS, on February 16, 1923, the American Samoa Red Cross became a chartered unit of the American Red Cross, delivering Red Cross services consistent and compliant with the National organization; and

WHEREAS, the ratification of the Territory of American Samoa’s Constitution in 1929 granted impetus and legitimacy to the work being conducted by the American Samoa Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, there was substantial membership growth and expansion of activities from inception to 1943 to include the American Samoa Department of Education’s teachers and students establishing the Junior Red Cross Unit; and

WHEREAS, over the years, under the Hawaii State Chapter, San Diego Chapter or now under the Pacific Islands Region, the American Samoa Red Cross provides critical Red Cross services to the local community such as disaster response, disaster preparedness, and Services to the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the American Samoa Red Cross has played a pivotal and significant role in rendering aid to our people who suffered the aftermath of major natural disasters such as Cyclone Tusi in 1987, Cyclone Val in 1991, Cyclone Heta in 2004, Cyclone Olaf in 2005, the Flood in February of 2006, and the September 2009 Tsunami; and

WHEREAS, on September 15, 2014, Governor Lolo M. Moliga affirmed the American Samoa Government’s commitment to partner with the American Samoa Red Cross in the construction of a one-story Administrative Building to house Red Cross activities which was completed in 2017; and


WHEREAS, the Red Cross commitment to disaster preparedness efforts such as free smoke alarm installations in villages, pillowcase presentations to schools, and Hands Only CPR training to the public is building resilient communities; and

WHEREAS, military servicemembers abroad and local families reach out to the American Samoa Red Cross for emergency communications and support with local verification; and

WHEREAS, for 100 Years, the American Red Cross of American Samoa has faithfully achieved its mission of preventing and alleviating human suffering by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, in consideration of the selfless services rendered by the American Samoa Red Cross for 100 Years, along with our unfathomable sense of gratitude to all who aided in the achievements of this humanitarian organization, hereby proclaim April 17, 2023, American Samoa's Flag Day, to be celebrated and observed as the American Samoa Red Cross Centennial Day. Let us all acknowledge the long history of dedicated and compassionate services to the residents of the Territory of American Samoa and support their humanitarian mission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 2nd day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three.


LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Governor