



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

July 18, 2024

GENERAL MEMORANDUM NO. 160 – 24

To: Secretary of Samoan Affairs, CEOs, Presidents and Executive Directors of Authorities, Directors, Agency and Office Heads

From: Governor of American Samoa

Subject: ASG Teaming Up with CCCAS for Walk and Wave Against Drugs

Drug abuse stands as one of the greatest threats to our territory and our people. Some of the most impactful efforts to combat this growing problem come from our churches. I recently received an invitation from the Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa (CCCAS) to join in their “Walk and Wave Against Drugs” on Friday, July 19.

According to a recent letter from CCCAS General Secretary Rev. Nafatali Falealii and Rev. Elder Afalupetua Uta’i, Coordinator of the CCCAS Elder’s Committee, this event coincides with the 35th General Assembly of the CCCAS currently underway in American Samoa. They expect more than 2,000 church members to participate, not only from American Samoa, but from Hawaii, the United States, New Zealand, and Australia. With this much support from the local and international communities, it behooves ASG to team up to make this event as impactful in our local community as possible. We should all stand together against a problem that is ravaging families and communities both local and across the globe.

For this event, participants will be divided into two groups. The first group will meet at Matafao Elementary School at 5 am and begin walking and waving towards Utulei beach. The second group will meet at the Fagatogo Pavilion, at the same time, and walk and wave towards Utulei as well. Both groups will be accompanied by floats and will meet at the Suigaula o le Atuvasa to begin waving to the public. At 8 am, a short ceremony will be held, followed by closing remarks given by the Elder’s Committee. Directors are asked to coordinate participation by their employees for this event. Let us represent ASG and our united stand against drugs. As this is an ASG function, no campaign attire, please.

Let us show that ASG stands united with our community and church leaders against drug abuse. Together we can all make a difference in the fight against drugs.

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Governor