

MEDIA RELEASE

SVSG Launches 20th Anniversary Celebrations with Inspiring Impromptu Speech Competition

Apia, Samoa – 5 May 2025 ---The Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) officially launched its 20th Anniversary celebrations today with the successful hosting of an Impromptu Speech Competition at the To’oa Salamasina Hall in Sogi. The event brought together students from primary and secondary schools across Samoa to speak passionately and confidently on issues affecting their lives and communities.

The competition showcased the voices of Samoa’s youth, delivering powerful and heartfelt messages that reflected their awareness, resilience, and hope for the future.

Winners of the competition were:

Primary School Division:

- 1st Place – *Jacinta Leslie Onesemo* (St Mary’s Primary School)
- 2nd Place – *Eddienna Lusie Ripley* (Robert Louis Stevenson Primary School)
- 3rd Place – *Laki Esau* (Luatuanuu Primary School)

Secondary School Division:

- 1st Place – *Falefatu Emmett Salele* (Samoa College)
- 2nd Place – *Leroy James Fruean* (Chanel College)
- 3rd Place – *Pisa Belle Salele* (Samoa College)

SVSG President Siliniu Lina Chang commended the courage and eloquence of all participants:

“This competition is a reminder that our children are not only listening – they are thinking critically and ready to lead. As we celebrate 20 years of service to Samoa, we honor the voices of the next generation.”

SVSG also extended its gratitude to SSAB and BSP Samoa, whose generous support provided consolation prizes to all participants. Their partnership reflects a shared commitment to nurturing and empowering young leaders across Samoa.

The Impromptu Speech Competition marks the first in a series of events planned for SVSG’s 20th Anniversary throughout 2025.

Images from Competition



Primary and Secondary level candidates



Candidates with judges and SVSG Staff



3rd place winner: Pisa Belle Salele and 1st place winner: Falefatu Emmett Salele



Chanel College candidates

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