

Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Services

Samoa Police Headquarters PO Box 53 PO Box 6102

Tel: (685) 22 222. Fax: (685) 20 848

Apia, SAMOA

Tanumalala, SAMOA Tel: (685) 23516 Fax: (685)23517 Samoa Prisons & Corrections

MEDIA RELEASE

19th July, 2023

Project Gateway sponsored by the US Embassy benefits inmates.

Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Services (SPPCS) has dedicated its efforts to helping inmates recognize their potential in various programs. This is done through its partners' assistance and support.

Project Gateway saw 18 inmates graduate after 10 weeks of participation. There were 18 inmates, 6 of whom were juveniles, and they all learned the 12 steps to recovery through the project.

Through the program, the inmates learned about the importance of making positive choices and the consequences of bad choices. They gained insight into their behavior and developed coping skills to deal with difficult emotions. The program also provided support and guidance to help them make better decisions and lead successful lives.

"Transformed Woman" participants accounted for twelve of the inmates. The program was created to empower women and provide a safe space to help them thrive and recognise their worth. It also helped them tap into their true potential. Consequently, these participants were able to gain the skills, confidence and personal growth they needed to reintegrate into society successfully.

In delivering this program, SPPCS's Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) partner, Light of Hope assisted in facilitating this invaluable program.

After weeks of constant commitment to the program the inmates graduated. The United States Embassy Charge d'Affaires Noriko Horiuchi and the President of the Light of Hope Clara Ah Kuoi both delivered remarks on the program Project Gateway. Ms. Horiuchi and Ms. Ah Kuoi both highlighted how the Project Gateway program offered something different and special for the inmates, as they celebrated their successful completion of the program.

Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Services Acting Commissioner Leiataua Samuelu Afamasaga expressed his gratitude towards US Embassy Charge d'Affaires Noriko Horiuchi for funding Project Gateway. He also extended his appreciation to the Light of Hope for their assistance in facilitating the program. All participants were presented with certificates at the ceremony.

End.