



# AMERICAN SAMOA HEALTH PLANNING NEWS

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## OMNIBUS TERRITORIES ACT

President Jimmy Carter signed on October 15, 1977, the Omnibus Territories Act. Title V of the Act authorized various Federal grantor agencies to put total program funding into one big grant (block grant) for use by territories, including American Samoa. The idea behind this obviously is to cut back on paperwork and to allow local officials more flexibility.

This means American Samoa may submit a single application for a consolidated grant for any fiscal year period, and the grantor agency may do away with requirements for local matching funds. Any Block grant for American Samoa however would not be less than the sum of all grants which American Samoa would otherwise be entitled to receive from that agency for such year.

The funds received under a block grant shall be expended in furtherance of the programs authorized for any of the grants which are being consolidated but the local officials shall determine the proportion of the funds granted to such programs.

The Act also orders the Department of Interior to carry-out a wide-ranging study of federal programs and how they apply to American Samoa and other territories. This is designed to help congress review existing federal law to make it more flexible to the problems facing territories.

## TULAFONO TAU TUPE MO TERITORI

Na sainia e le Peresitene Jimmy Carter se tulafono tau tupe mo teritori i le aso 15 Oketopa 1977. Ua tuuina atu ai le 'aia i vaega eseese o le Malo Tele o lo'o avatuina tupe mo polokalama faapitoa i teritori, ina ia tuufaatasia uma vaega tupe taitasi o lo'o tuuina atu i lea teritori i se vaega tupe tele e tasi, mo teritori uma e aofia ai ma Amerika Samoa. Ua faia le nei tulafono, ina ia faaititia ai galuega tau pepa, ma ia maua atili e teritori le avanoa e fai ai lava e i latou le fa'asoasoina o le tupe.

O lona uiga, o le ā na'o le tasi le pepa talosaga e faia e Amerika Samoa e auina atu i se vaega o le Malo Tele mo se vaega tupe tu'u faatasi mo so'o se tausaga. O lea pepa talosaga e ao ona faia e tusa ma auala ma tulafono mai se vaega o le Malo Tele o lo'o pulea lea vaega tupe. Atonu o le ā le toe manaomia e lea vaega se tupe fa'atusatusa mai teritori e pei ona iai nei.

Vaega tupe tu'u faatasi mo Amerika Samoa e le i lalo o le aofaiga o vaega tupe uma e tataua ona maua e Amerika Samoa mai se vaega o le Male Tele mo se tausaga.



E ao ona faaaoga tupe mai vaega tupe tu'ufaatasi mo polokalama sa 'aiaia mo so'o se vaega tupe ua tuuina i totonu o le vaega tupe tu'ufaatasi. A'e tatau i ulu o Malo o teritori ona latou iloiloaina se aofa'i o se tupe mo ia polokalama taitasi.

Ua faatonuina fo'i le Tulafono le vaega o le Interior ina ia faia se su'esu'e o polokalama a le Malo Tele, ma faapefea ona faaaogaina ia polokalama mo Amerika Samoa faapea fo'i isi feasoasoani i le Fono a Malo Tele i le latou iloiloaina o tulafono a le Malo ina ia ai ma faafitauli o lo'o fa'afegai ma teritori.

#### VAEGA O'LE TUSI O FUAFUAGA TALANOAINA E LE KOMITI

Sa talanoaina e le komiti i ana fonotaga e tolu i le masina o Novema, le vaega o le tusi o fuafuaga e uiga i galuega tau i le suesueina/togafitiga o gasegase, sa saunia e le ofisa o le SHPDA.

Na muamua faaalia e le susuga McCuddin, le fa'atonu o lea ofisa, e faapea e iai sini, tulafono, ma tulaga aloaia faa-le-malo-tele i le tausiga o le soifua maloloina. Sa ia faapea fo'i, e ao lava ona ta'ua nei sini ma tulafono faa-le-malo tele i totonu o le tatou tusi o fuafuaga, vagana ai ni faiga faapitoa po'o ni mea e le talafegai ai mo Amerika Samoa. O ni sini ma tulafono uma faa-le-malo tele tatou te teena atoa ma ni ala ua mafua ai, e tatau lava ona tusia i totonu o le tatou tusi o fuafuaga.

I le talanoaina o sini o galuega tau suesueina/togafitiga o gasegase, sa fa'amamafa e McCuddin le taua o upu ia: "talafegai ai" ma le "manaoga lau-tele".

O galuega tau oloa (nifo), sa pasia le manatu e faapea e tasi (1) le foma'i nifo mo le 4000 tagata. Sa talanoaina fo'i se manatu e faapea ua tatau ona faia se tulafono e aiaia ai le iai ma le lava e ni tagata agava'a mo lea ituaiga galuega. O ia manatu ua tusia i le tusi o fuafuaga e tusa ai ma le maliliega o le komiti.

O galuega tau le tausiga o le mafaufau, o le fautuaga a le ofisa o le SHPDA e faapea, ia faatagaina togafiti ma fofa fa'a-samoa e faaaoga fa'atasi ma togafiti faasaaienisi i le togafitiga o faafitauli o amioga, ma le mafaufau. Sa teena e le komiti lea fautuaga ona o se lagona e faapea, o se mea faigata ma le matautia pe a fa'aaoga faatasi ia auala. Ua pasia nei na'o togafiti faasaaienisi e faia. O le a toe auia la le faaupuga o le sini o ia galuega.

O galuega mo gasegase mai fa'alavelave tutupu fa'afuase'i, sa fa'alia e McCuddin ua uma ona iai sini, autu ma fautuaga mo ia galuega i se tusi o fuafuaga fa'apitoa. E tatau ona taualoaina pea fuafuaga ua uma ona faia, ae aua le toe faia nisi fuafuaga ese mai ai. Sa sapaapaia e le komiti lea manatu. Sa fa'aalia fo'i e fa'apea e tatau ona iai se tasi e su'e mai na te fa'atonutonuina lea polokalama. Fai mai le susuga a Sivia Sunia, ta'ita'ifono a le komiti ua uma ona aiaia lea tulaga i lalo ole polokalama a le Highway Safety.

O galuega tau talavai fa'afoma'i, sa talanoaina ai falema'i i tua i Tutuila. Ole molimau e fa'apea, ua aga'i tele i lalo le fa'aaogaina e tagata; ua ititi tele le fiafia iai o tagata; ua mataga foliga o falema'i, ma ua fa'aletonu le latou aoga. Talu ai o se mataupu taua ma le lavelave, ua manatu le komiti e fa'amoe le mataupu mo le fono a sau.

#### HEALTH SERVICE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED DIAGNOSTIC/TREATMENT SERVICES SECTION OF THE TERRITORY'S SHP

The Health Services Committee of the American Samoa Statewide Health Coordinating Council (ASSHOC) met twice in the month of November, discussing the State Health Planning (SHP) section on Diagnostic/Treatment Services, submitted by the staff.



In discussing the draft, SHPDA director Charles McCuddin first informed the committee of the Federal role in developing National goals, standards, and goals except when exceptions were allowed or if they obviously did not apply. In any event these standards had to be referred to in the SHP even if only to explain why the Territory could not accept such standards.

The general goal for the category of Diagnostic and Treatment Services was discussed. McCuddin called attention to the two key terms in the goal which referred to "appropriateness" and "public need" for services.

Considerable discussion was given to the ratio of dentists to population. The ratio of 1 dentist to 4000 persons was finally adopted. Comments concerned with the utilization of dental manpower as well as the number of dentists were heard, as well as the plea for the development of a long range Territorial health manpower policy to ensure the development of local manpower resources to meet dental needs. After considerable discussion and revision to staff drafts the Committee eventually arrived at a consensus which will be included in the SHP.

In the area of Mental Treatment Services, SHPDA staff had recommended attempts to coordinate western world psychiatric treatment with local traditional methods in the treatment of Mental Illness and behavioral problems. This concept was rejected by the Committee based on the feeling that it was dangerous to try to wed the two approaches. The Committee recommended that the SHP address only improvement in treatment services by western medical standards.

In the area of Emergency Medical Services, McCuddin noted the existence of the Territorial EMS Plan and its Goals, Objectives and Recommendations. Staff suggestion was: rather than develop separate goals, objectives, etc, the SHP should merely refer to, and support those of the EMS Plan. The Committee supported this recommendation and the recommendation that a full-time EMS Program Director be hired. Committee chairman Sivia mentioned that this was to be accomplished under the Highway Traffic Safety Program.

In considering the goal relating to accessibility of primary care services, the committee got into the complicated issue of the Tutuila dispensaries and their relationship to primary care services, including utilization (declining); acceptability (low); condition (poor); and, need (questionable). Because of the complexity of the issue and the impact of the decision on future health services it was decided to consider the question at greater length in the next meeting.

#### ASSHCC APPROVED ALCOHOL STATE PLAN

During its meeting on October 18, 1977, the American Samoa SHCC approved the Alcohol State Plan for the Territory.

The plan is a required part of the Department of Health's application to the DHEW for \$27,485 grant to develop an alcohol abuse program.

The Plan describes the scope of the alcohol problem in the Territory, and goals, objectives and strategies of the Department's proposed program in coping with the problem.

SHCC chairperson, HC Letuli said that there was a demonstrated need to control the use and abuse of alcohol in this Territory. As a member also of the Territory's Alcoholic Beverages Control Board, HC Letuli expressed hope that the implementation of this new program will support the existing efforts of this Board, the Traffic Safety Program and other organizations, so that this problem can be brought under control.

#### PASIA E LE ASSHCC FUAUFUAGA TAU 'AVA MALOSI

Sa pasia e le ASSHCC i lana fonotaga ia Oketopa 18, 1977, fuafuaga tau le faaagaina o le 'ava malosi, mo le Teritori.

O ia fuafuaga ua aofia i se talosaga a le vaega o le soifua maloloina. mo se vaega tupe e \$27,485 mai le malo tele e faia ai se polokalama tau i le faaagaina o le 'ava malosi.

Ua faamatalaina le malosi o lenei faafitauli i le Teritori, sini, autu ma faiga ua fuafuagaina e le vaega o le soifua maloloina auā le faafeagai ai ma lea faafitauli.



SELF-CARE RENAL DIALYSIS FACILITY  
PROPOSED BY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Department of Health has applied to USDHEW Region IX for advance approval as a suppliers of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) services in the Medicare Program.

Under P.L. 93-641, the American Samoa SHPDA has responsibility to make determination of need for the proposed service. The SHPDA is concerned primarily with two important issues. Whether or not ESRD service/facility: (1) will provide quality care to eligible beneficiaries, and (2) will meet a public need for such services in the Territory.

Since the State Agency has not yet established its territorial certificate of need program, and has not developed specific policies and procedures for ESRD reviews, the SHPDA will utilize criteria developed for determining the need for new institutional health services.

The SHPDA Director Charles McCuddin has requested the SHCC's committee on plan implementation and project review to assist in their process. The Committee's role will be to: (1) review the information furnished by the Department of Health in support of the need for a self-care renal dialysis facility in the area, and the staff analysis, and (2) advise the SHPDA on the committee's findings of need for the facility and other related findings concerning the use of federal funds in the Territory.

The SHPDA is developing its analysis of the application and will forward same to the committee with copies of the review criteria as soon as possible with ample time for reading before the committee's meeting.

MASINI MO TAUSIGA O GASEGASE O  
FATUMA'A TALOSAGAINA VAEGA SOIFUA  
MALOLOINA

Ua tu'uina nei e le vaega soifua maloloina se talosaga tupe i le Malo Tele e galueaina ai se polokalama mo tausiga o gasegase o fatuma'a i lalo o le medicare program.

I lalo o le tulafono P.L. 93-641, Ua tu'uina i le ofisa o fuafuaga a Amerika Samoa (SHPDA) le malosiaga na te faia ai ni iloiloga i se manaoga lautele mo lea ituaiga tausiga ua talosagaina. E lua ni mataupu taua o lo'o mafaufau mamafa iai le ofisa: (1) fia iloa pe lelei ma atoatoa le tausiga e faia mo gasegase e lenei ituaiga galuega, ma (2) e fia iloa pe ua tusa ai ma le manaoga lautele mo lea ituaiga i le Teritori.

Talu ai e le'i amataina le tatou polokalama mo le iloiloga ma pasiga o talasoga, tatou te le'i faia foi ni tulaga ma tulafono fa'apitoa e 'aiaia ai le iloiloina o galuega mo tausiga o fatuma'a, o le ā faaoga e le Ofisa tulaga ma tulafono ua faia mo le iloiloina o se manaoga mo se galuega fou e faia e se faalapotopotoga mo le soifua maloloina.

Ua talosagaina nei la e le susuga Charles McCuddin, faatonu o lea ofisa, le komiti a le SHCC ina ia auai i le iloiloga o lea talosaga. O le galuega a le komiti e faia o le a (1) iloiloina fa'amatalaga mai le vaega soifua maloloina e lagolagoina ai le manaoga mo lea ituaiga galuega, atoa ma le ripoti a le ofisa e uiga i lea galuega talosagaina ma (2) fautuaina le ofisa i mea ua maua mai ana su'esu'ega e uiga i le manaoga lautele mo lea ituaiga galuega atoa fo'i ma nisi mea ua maua e uiga i le faaogaina o tupe feasoasani i totonu o le Teritori.

O lo'o galue nei le ofisa e faia lana su'esu'ega o le talosaga, ma o lana ripoti o le ā tu'uina atu i le komiti faatasi ma tulafono (tulaga) mo le faia o lana iloiloga, ia lava le taimi e faitau ai a'o le'i fono le komiti i se aso o i luma o le ā fuafuaina.



## HEALTH PLANNING COURSE NOW CONDUCTED

A course in planning and developing community health services is being conducted at the LBJ Medical Center. It is a correspondence course from the Pennsylvania State University sponsored by the ASSHPDA, and is open to anyone interested or involved in community health program with no charge.

The course consists of eleven planned discussions on the given topics, written exercises, and the materials as provided. The first session was held on November 14, 1977, and the slide show "Health Care and Public Interest", was shown. More than ten people from the Division of Public Health and the Maternal and Child Health Program attended.

The ASSHPDA Director Charles McCuddin, the course coordinator said that this course is a part of the ASSHPDA's effort to provide technical assistance to the health program personnel.

## MEMBERS ATTEND OFF-ISLAND TRAININGS

During the last months of 1977, several members of the SHCC and the SHPDA staff attended trainings held off-island.

Dr. Ernest Thompson and HC Faumuina Mulitau of the SHCC, with Mr. John Faumuina of the SHPDA attended a two-day training session, sponsored by the Western Center for Health Planning on November 10-11, 1977. The training was on hospital cost containment strategy, which discussed various methods for slowing down health costs.

Mrs. Molisamoa Pa'au and Dr. Lopā, the SHCC members, attended a dental health planning training on December 1-2, sponsored by the American Dental Association in San Francisco.

HC Letuli Toloa and Mr. Sivia Sunia of the SHCC, also attended a two day training session on December 12-13 in Oakland, California, sponsored by the Western Center. The training was on financial tools for health planners.

## PLAN DEVELOPED FOR HYPERTENSION PROGRAM

The SHPDA staff presently developes a plan for hypertension program as requested by the Public Health physician Dr. Faiaoga Tosi, the project director.

The plan is a part of an application for a federal grant to operate a special project to control high blood pressure in American Samoa. Dr. Tosi said that our primary goal in this project would be to minimize resident disability and death through a well organized and coordinated effort. Dr. Tosi also hopes for community cooperation in the effort to cope with this present Public Health menace.

## FUAFUAGA TUSITUSIA MO LE PULEA O LE TOTO MAUALUGA

O lo'o faia nei e le ofisa o le SHPDA ni fuafuaga tusitusia mo le polokalama o le toto maualuga, e pei ona fa'atalosagaina e le susuga a Faiaoga Tosi, foma'i fa'atonu o le polokalama.

O ia fuafuaga o se vaega o le tatou talosaga mo se tupe mai le Malo Tele, mo se polokalama faapi-toa e pulea ai le faafitauli, o le toto maualuga i Amerika Samoa.

Fai mai le Ali'i foma'i o Tosi, o le agaga moni o lenei fa'ama'i. Ua fa'amoemoe fo'i le ali'i foma'i i le filagolagomai ma le galulue faatasi o tatou tagata nu'u ma le vaega o le soifua maloloina i le faaititia o lenei faafitauli.



## AGENCY'S FIRST ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE

American Samoa SHPDA now has its first annual report available at its office. This report covers the first year of operation beginning from July 1976 to June 1977.

This report serves as a means to inform the local communities and the government about the progress made by the health planning agency in the performance of its functions and responsibilities toward improvement of the health of the Territory. The report contains the following information:

- a. summary of organization structure and purpose of the Territory's SHPDA
- b. SHPDA's functions
- c. achievements made in the performance of each functional category.
- d. list of all staff members
- e. list of the members and committees of the American Samoa SHCC
- f. financial statement
- g. message from the American Samoa SHCC chairpersons.

Anybody desiring to have a copy may obtain one upon request to the Office of the Health Planning and Development Agency at the LBJ Medical Center, Phone 633-4559,

## MULITAUAUPELE LEFT ASSHPDA

After 30 years of services to the Department of Health, Arieta Mulitauaupele left the ASSHPDA last October to enter the Territory's first gubernatorial election for the position of Lt. governor.

Mulitauaupele, 54, the ASSHPDA's community coordinator was greatly involved in coordinating and educating the local community regarding health planning efforts to improve the health of our people. Mulitauaupele, after serving as Director of Public Health Nursing for more than 10 years, joined the health planning staff in 1970 when the program initially started under the Comprehensive Health Planning Act.

## FAUMUINA JOINS ASSHPDA

Mr. John Faumuina has joined the ASSHPDA as Health Economics and Data Manager. His primary responsibility will be to maintain an appropriate data base, coordinate data management activities with other programs within the Health Department or other appropriate agencies in the Territory, and provide data analysis for agency planning and implementation activities.

Before joining the ASSHPDA staff, Faumuina was the Health Statistician in the Division of Public Health. He attended a postgraduate program in biostatistics for one year under the WHO fellowship in the University of California at Los Angeles.

Welcome Aboard! John!



We, the SHPDA staff express our sincere "Malo" to Mulitauaupele for her service to the program, and "Manuia" to her future endeavour.



# Health Dept News

●●●A new organizational chart for the Department proposed by Director Sumner Cheeseman was presented in the Nov. 1977 meeting of the Department's Executive Board. According to the new chart the Mental Health program which is one of the 314(d) programs funded under the U.S. Public Health Service Act, is now separate from the Public Health Division, and responsible only to the Director of Health.

●●●The Department's Recognition Program Committee had received nominations of our candidates submitted for awards. Committee chairperson Repeka Howland said however, that none of the candidates met the requirements. Two candidates are employees of the Medical Record Section, and two of the X-ray Section.

●●●In an attempt to provide adequate primary dentist services to the Manu'a islands, Dental Service Director Callow said that he plans to send a dentist to Manu'a very shortly, either on a full time basis or on short term stay. He also said that a dental student presently attending school in Fiji sponsored by the Government of American Samoa, is graduating this December, and is being considered for the job in Manu'a.

●●●The two physicians from San Diego Medical School, who were here by Governor Lee's request to assess the health care system in the Territory, have recommended that there should be a continued education program for physicians and nurses, conducted at intervals by members of the faculty of the San Diego Medical School. They reported that facilities and services provided in the LBJ Medical Center are of fine quality and much better than what they expected.

●●●The Women's Hospital Auxillary has donated \$1000 to the Department to be spent for whatever needs there are in the hospital.



## THE 23RD PSALM FOR BUSY PEOPLE

The Lord is my pace setter, I shall not rush.  
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.  
He provides me with images of stillness which  
restore my serenity. He leads me in the ways  
of efficiency through calmness of mind, and

His guidance is peace. Even though I have much  
to accomplish each day, and Crisis may pile upon shall be the fruits of my hours For I shall walk  
in the peace of my Lord, and dwell in his house  
forever.

crisis, I will not fall apart, for his presence  
is with me. His timelessness, His all-importance  
will keep me in balance. He prepares refreshment  
and renewal in the midst of activity; He anoints  
my mind with His oils of inspiration. My cup of  
joy overflows. Surely harmony and effectiveness

# Happy Holidays



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