

SVSG 2023 Online Fundraising Campaign: SAVING LIVES

Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) is a non-governmental organization that is the sole provider of temporary residential care for abused women and children in Samoa. Since its establishment in July 2005, SVSG has served vulnerable populations through casework, advocacy, shelter facilities, and community programs. SVSG does not have sufficient resources or capacity to meet the increasing demand for its services. The SVSG 2023 Online Fundraising Campaign, *Saving Lives*, aims to generate funds to expand and improve SVSG's delivery of integrated, personalised and professional services to vulnerable populations.

SVSG SERVICES

- ✓ Sheltering abused women and children before and after their court cases; counselling and rehabilitation services for survivors of family violence; and connecting with local health services.
- ✓ Caring for children who are pregnant from rape and/or incest. Children are often cast out of their family or unable to return to their villages. SVSG supports young mothers, sometimes only 11 or 12 years old, through the birthing process and assist courts with witness relocation to help resolve their cases.
- ✓ Providing non-judgemental support to young victims of sexual violence, so they can bravely tell their story and seek safety.
- ✓ Operating the School of Hope at SVSG's Campus of Hope so children can continue their education while awaiting resolution to their cases. The school extension building caters for activities like home economics and livelihood training workshops.
- ✓ Coordinating a network of over 1,000 community leaders who volunteer as SVSG village representatives to help look after vulnerable populations like children, women, underprivileged families, elderly, and people with disabilities.
- ✓ Helping child vendors and their families to access educational and employment opportunities.
- ✓ Helping upskill and empower hundreds of women who have married into villages where they no longer have direct family support through SVSG's Novotane programme.
- ✓ Providing rehabilitative counselling for men, women and young offenders of violence referred from the Family Court and Youth Court.
- ✓ Operating a free 24-hour Helpline (800-7874) for anyone to call for help, advice or referral.

- ✓ Coordinating a peer support network, SVSG Juniors, which provides healthy lifestyle activities and identifies career training opportunities for young people.
- ✓ Advocating for legislative changes. In 2013, after years of advocacy, the Government of Samoa passed and revised the Family Safety Act and the Crime Act respectively, which finally criminalized family violence.

WHY DONATE?

It has been years of struggles and blessings. A journey of hardships and achievements. A road of sacrifices, criticisms, and sometimes, loneliness. Donations will support SVSG to:

- keep its office doors open to serve an increasing number of vulnerable members of the community
- provide more shelter, rehabilitation, continuing education and empowerment programs for abused women and children
- be the voice for the voiceless, and support more of them to bravely tell their story and seek safety
- raise further community awareness through programs and campaigns on the collective responsibilities for a safer Samoa
- provide additional resources for the 24-hour Helpline and case management to improve response times for assistance.

SVSG is calling on your patronage to help SVSG to continue saving lives of victims and supporting them to become survivors. No matter how big or small, your donation can make a huge impact on someone's life. Remember, we are stronger together. **SVSG will** acknowledge and celebrate your donations at its Saving Lives event on 29 July 2023.

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Banks		Other ways to donate
ANZ Bank (Samoa) Ltd	Bank South Pacific Ltd	Givealittle: <u>https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/svsg-saving-lives-</u>
Name: Samoa Victim Support Group	Name: Samoa Victim Support Group	<u>fundraising-appeal</u> , Reference: <i>SVSG Online Fundraising 2023:</i>
Number: 4041410	Number: 2000505517	<i>Saving Lives</i>
Samoa Commercial Bank Ltd	Bank of New Zealand	Website: <u>www.svsg.org.ws</u> (Donate button)
Name: Samoa Victim Support Group	Name: Samoa Victim Support Group	Money transfer: Samoa Victim Support Group, c/o Mrs Vitolina
Number: 0177938-001	Number: 02-0232-0110831-002	Chang, Reference: <i>SVSG Online Fundraising 2023: Saving Lives</i> .