Resource Guide

Generated November 28, 2026 · 6 open facilities · closed facilities are not listed · call before you go: details change quickly

AS

Methodist Church (Past Shelter)

Walk–in Resource

Church/Shelter
Alofau, AS 96799

Phone 622–7221
Service Temporary

source: http://www.samoanews.com/
source: http://across.co.nz/AmericanSamoanChurches.html

Services offered: Shelter * (ANY/ALL Types)
Campaigns: 2009 American Samoa Tsunami

Updated Sep 4, 2012 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/4636

VOAD – American Samoa VOAD (VOASD)

Info/Hotline · Open

LTRC, VOAD
Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa (CCCAS) compound at Kanana Fou., Kanana Fou, AS

Phone 684–699–9809
Web www.asvoad.org
Serves American Samoa
Eligibility Impacted by the AS Tsunami
Checks payable to ASVOAD
Service Temporary

In collaboration with other community agencies on the ground, ASVOAD volunteers have been engaged in disaster response and relief since the incident occurrence. The soon shift will give concentration to recovery.

For those persons needing assistance, or have any queries with references to the services that have been made available for our community, please CALL our ASVOAD office for more details ––– (684) 699–9809.

SOURCE: Samoanews.com

Press Release December 2009
What is ASVOAD and why is it important to know about them?

After a period of inactivity, the local American Samoa Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (ASVOAD) reconstituted immediately to foster necessary services to the people affected by the tsunami–earthquake disaster of 29 September. ASVOAD began to bring in new members and opened invitations to faith–based, voluntary, and non–profit organizations to spearhead relief and recovery efforts.

The Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa (CCCAS) has established and donated administrative support for ASVOAD, providing workspace and telephone lines. The CCCAS has made available the grounds, staff, and resources of the Church to accommodate the needs of the ASVOAD. The ASVOAD meetings are generally held at the CCCAS compound which also houses the multi–agency donation warehouse (MADW) and facilitates collection, sorting and distribution of in–kind donations.

Reverend Samuelu T. Tialavea, Jr., General Secretary of the CCCAS currently serves as ASVOAD's Chairman. The remaining executive officers are Vice Chair, Mr. Jim Mahoney, President, Rotary Club of Pago Pago, American Samoa; Secretary, Mrs. Faaalu Faletoese Iuli, Executive Director, American Samoa Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence; and Treasurer, Dr. Falema'o "Phil" Pili, American Samoa Community College's Chief Financial Officer.

Other volunteer staffing supporting the executive board are: National VOAD (NVOAD) Point of Contact, Mrs. Evelyn Sa'o–Stevens from the Pualele Foundation; Public Information Officer, Pastor Vickie Haleck, Founder & Executive Director, Teen Challenge; the Territorial Voluntary Agency Liaison (TVAL) & Donations Coordination Team Chair, Mrs. Easter Asi–Bruce, Program Manager, American Samoa Disaster Relief and Recovery Program; and the FEMA VAL, Mr. Charles Craig.

The unique partnerships of ASVOAD and NVOAD enables the leveraging of resources providing the capability to implement the Long Term Recovery Plan (LTRP). The italicized text in the following paragraphs are snapshots from the recently published LTRP detailing ASVOAD activities that have already been accomplished.

The Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) and the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC) established a strong working relationship with the CCCAS to begin the groundwork for long–term recovery efforts. The MDS has secured housing quarters at one of the CCCAS housing units.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) responded opening their church halls as shelters. LDS members transported evacuees to nearby shelters, delivered food and water, as well as securing durable medical equipment. The LDS brought in 15 wheelchairs, 20 crutches, and 2 walkers.

FEMA supported ASG by providing a short term housing kit consisting of a two–person tent (Yurt), with a liquid fuel two burner stove, fuel container and fuel lantern and flashlights. 1200 tents were distributed to 657 families. American Red Cross (ARC) also complemented this with a cooler that contained comfort kits, work gloves, hammer and flash lights along with cots. Off–island groups distributed lots of food and supplies.

World Vision, with the Alofa Tunoa Ministries has been in the villages with donations of food, water and personal care packages. The Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief provided purified water at the disaster sites to families with 5–gallon water bottles; they bought the islands entire stock.

The ARC, through the national organization, brought 87 volunteers in from their Disaster Services Human Resource (DSHR) system. ARC also had Americorps volunteers' plus 273 local volunteers. ARC distributed tuna, powdered milk, crackers, spam, sugar, flour, potatoes, onions, rice, 446 cases of dry ramen noodles, 8,721 cases of water and 99,490 snacks. Additionally, ARC strategically distributed by implementing the "Hot Shot" approach, 2,205 blue tarps, 548 sleeping mats, 12,500 trash bags, 443 empty 50–quart coolers and 120 pallets of bulk supplies from Hawaii. ARC was able to serve 65, 288 persons through its bulk distribution efforts.

Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) also brought in volunteers to support the on–island affiliate Catholic Social Services (CSS). CCUSA also gave $10,000 to CSS.

Save the Children (STC) also distributed 270 kits of school supplies in addition to setting up Child Friendly Spaces at several locations including the DRC.

Tzu Chi Foundation (TCF) distributed debit cards to families identified by ASG. TCF provided $89,400 to 481 families. In–kind donations to various local agencies and to ASG, including food and clothes have also been distributed.

Convoy of Hope and Hands On Disaster Relief groups were on the ground assisting in the relief efforts and bridging relations with ASVOAD to help with recovery initiatives.

Feed the Children one 40–foot container and one 20–foot container, containing 672 mid–weight sleeping bags, 504 duffle bags, 2,304 four–person Coleman dome tents w/carry bag and 5,760 flashlights w/o batteries.

Five Community Resource Sites (CRS) were established in the harder hit villages by ASVOAD through coordination by CCUSA and served as points of distribution for in–kind goods to all villages. The CRS were opened for five days when first launched.

To recap, what is ASVOAD? In a nutshell, ASVOAD is comprised of a diverse and talented mix of experienced, humanitarian, compassionate Samoans anxious to help our island heal by helping to rebuild homes and lives. Why is it important to know about them? The composition of their organization, partnership with American Samoa Disaster Relief & Recovery Program and the national resources at their fingertips gives them the most strategic advance in quality expedition of implementing recovery efforts as outlined in the recently published LTRP.

The Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC) recently formed as well as sub–committees to begin rebuilding homes and lives for our disaster survivors. Look for follow on articles pertaining to the recent creation of the LTRC and sub–committees.

For more information please visit them online: http://www.asvoad.org or contact them at 699–9809.

FROM THE VOAD SITE:

American Samoa
Evelyn Stevens
Vice–President
Pualele Foundation
684–254–0554 or 684–733–0094
ogesosopo51@ yahoo.com

AS VOAD looking for wheelchairs and crutches

The American Samoa Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster is appealing to any families with wheelchairs, bedpans and crutches that are not being used, to please donate them for tsunami victims.

Pastor Vickie Haleck, the public relations Officer for VOAD says many individual who were injured in the tsunami are in need of these equipment.

She says the organization has been able to provide for some victims but there's still a waiting list. Today the AS VOAD is receiving 15 wheelchairs and crutches donated from Samoa. Haleck says these were arranged by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints.

Pasor Haleck thanked the LDS church and the people of Samoa who donated the equipment even though they were also affected by the tsunami.

She said they have already lined up people to receive the wheelchairs and crutches from Samoa and they still need more. If you're able to help please call VOASD at 699–9809 and 254–0554

Services offered: Case Management, Long–Term Case Management; Case Management, LTRC, Long Term Recovery Committee; Case Management, * (Providers of ANY Type of Case Management); Construction, Rebuilding, Volunteer Services; Counseling (Free or Sliding Scale) * (ANY/ALL Types of Counseling); Counseling, Post Disaster Counseling; Counseling, Spiritual; Demographic Served: Survivors, Natural Disaster Impacted Communities; Donations, Disaster Fund
Campaigns: 2009 American Samoa Tsunami; Adventist Community Services Disaster Relief; American Red Cross / Int'l Federation of RC / ICRC / IFRC; AmeriCorps; Catholic Charities USA; Convoy of Hope; CWS ~ Church World Service; Feed The Children; Government, FEMA / Department of Homeland Security; Government, Small Business Administration (SBA); Hands On Disaster Response; LDS ~ Church of Jesus Christ of Latter–day Saints; LTRC, Long Term Recovery Committee; Lutheran Disaster Response; Mennonite Disaster Service; Save The Children; Southern Baptist Conference Disaster Relief; Tzu Chi Foundation; UCC ~ United Church of Christ; United Way; VOAD – Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster (this Org is a State Level Member); World Renew (also known as CRWRC–DRS ~ Christian Reformed World Relief Committee–Disaster Response Services; World Vision
Updated Dec 22, 2009 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/4801

Manumalo Baptist Church

Walk–in Resource · Open

Church
Malaeimi, AS
Phone 684 699–4453
Contact Pastor
Email pastor@manumalo.com
Service Temporary
Updated Oct 1, 2009 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/4632

American Samoa 2009 Tsunami NEWS (MEDIA REPORTS)

Info/Hotline · Open

News Organization
AS
Service Temporary

ASVOAD article–
http://samoanews.com/viewstory.php?storyid=11257&edition=1260489421

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http://samoanews.com/viewstory.php?storyid=9080

local news in above link

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http://www.ldschurchnews.com/articles/57960/8–LDS–members–are–believed–among–fatalities–of–earthquake–tsunami–in–the–Samoas.html

see pictures in above link

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http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/09/29/ap/australia/main5351423.shtml

Home World AP – Australia PAGO PAGO, American Samoa, Sep. 29, 2009
Residents Flee Tsunami After Strong Quake In Samoa

Strong Quake Strikes Between Samoa And American Samoa, Causing Residents To Flee From Tsunami

SEE MAP AT ABOVE LINK

(AP) A powerful earthquake with a magnitude of up to 8.3 struck in the South Pacific between Samoa and American Samoa around dawn Tuesday, sending terrified residents fleeing for higher ground as a tsunami swept ashore, flattening at least one village. There were no immediate reports of fatalities.

The quake hit at 6:48 a.m. Tuesday (1748 GMT) midway between the two island groups. In Apia, families reported shaking that lasted for up to three minutes. The U.S. Geological Service, which estimated the magnitude at 8.0, said the quake struck 20 miles (35 kilometers) below the ocean floor, 120 miles (190 kilometers) from American Samoa and 125 miles (200 kilometers) from Samoa, with a 5.6–magnitude aftershock 20 minutes later.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center put the quake's magnitude at 8.3 and issued a general alert for the South Pacific region, from American Samoa to New Zealand. It said there were indications a tsunami wave could be "destructive" along some coastlines. Several hours away from the epicenter, Hawaii was put under a tsunami watch, with five emergency centers opened as a precaution.

New Zealander Graeme Ansell said the beach village of Sau Sau Beach Fale was leveled.

"It was very quick. The whole village has been wiped out," Ansell told National Radio from a hill near Samoa's capital, Apia. "There's not a building standing. We've all clambered up hills, and one of our party has a broken leg. There will be people in a great lot of need 'round here."

A five–foot tsunami wave swept into Pago Pago, capital of American Samoa, shortly after the earthquake, sending sea water surging inland about 100 yards (meters) before receding, leaving some cars and debris stuck in mud. Electricity outages were reported, and telephone lines were jammed.

The staff of the port ran to higher ground, and police soon came by, telling residents to get inland. Several students were seen ransacking a gas station/convenience store.

In Fagatogo, water reached the waterfront town's meeting field and covered portions of the main highway, which also was plagued by rock slides.

In Samoa, the powerful quake jolted people awake.

"It was pretty strong; it was long and lasted at least two minutes," one resident told local radio.

"It's the strongest I have felt, and we ran outside. You could see all the trees and houses were shaking," he said.

Sulili Dusi told New Zealand's National Radio that "everything dropped on the floor and we thought the house was going to go down as well. Thank God, it didn't." Along with neighbors, they fled to high ground.

She said the tsunami hit the south side of the island, and some "cars have been taken." She did not elaborate, but added "we just thank God no life has been taken yet."

Another resident, Dean Phillips, said the southern coast of Upolu island had been struck by the tsunami.

"The police are sending everybody up to high ground," he said.

Local media said they had reports of some landslides in the Solosolo region of the main Samoan island of Upolu and damage to plantations in the countryside outside Apia.

There were no immediate reports of injury or serious damage from local emergency services, but people reported cracks in some homes and items tossed from shelves.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Honolulu issued a tsunami warning for numerous islands in the Pacific, including the Samoas, the Cook Islands, Tonga, Fiji, New Zealand, French Polynesia and Palmyra Island.

The center posted a tsunami watch for Hawaii, Vanuatu, the Marshall Islands, Solomon Island, Johnston Island, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Wake Island, Midway Island and Pitcairn.

In New Zealand, a tsunami alert was issued by national Civil Defense, and the nation's national emergency center was activated.

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Associated Press writer Keni Lesi contributed to this report from Apia, Samoa.

http://www.detnews.com/article/20090930/NATION/909300366/1020/Tsunami–hits–Samoa––American–Samoa–in–Pacific

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Tsunami in South Pacific islands kills nearly 100
Keni Lesa and Fili Sagapolutele / Associated Press

Apia, Samoa –– A massive tsunami hurled by a powerful earthquake flattened Samoan villages and swept cars and people out to sea, killing at least 99 and leaving dozens missing Wednesday. The toll was expected to rise.

Survivors fled the fast–churning water for higher ground on the South Pacific islands and remained huddled there hours after the quake, with a magnitude between 8.0 and 8.3, struck around dawn Tuesday.

The quake was centered about 125 miles (200 kilometers) from Samoa, an island nation of 180,000 people located about halfway between New Zealand and Hawaii. It was about 120 miles (190 kilometers) from neighboring American Samoa, a U.S. territory that is home to 65,000 people.

Four tsunami waves 15 to 20 feet (4 to 6 meters) high roared ashore on American Samoa, reaching up to a mile (1.5 kilometers) inland, Mike Reynolds, superintendent of the National Park of American Samoa, was quoted as saying by a parks service spokeswoman.

The same day, western Indonesia was rocked by a strong underwater quake, briefly triggering a tsunami alert for countries along the Indian Ocean and sending panicked residents out of their houses. The alert was later canceled.

The Samoan capital, Apia, was virtually deserted by afternoon, with schools and businesses closed. Hours after the waves struck, fresh sirens rang out with another tsunami alert and panicked residents headed for higher ground again, although there was no indication of a new quake.

In American Samoa's capital of Pago Pago, the streets and fields were filled with ocean debris, mud, overturned cars and several boats as a massive cleanup effort continued into the night. Several buildings in the city –– just a few feet above sea level –– were flattened. Several areas were expected to be without electricity for up to a month.

In Washington, President Obama has declared a major disaster for American Samoa.

In a statement issued early Wednesday, Obama said he and his wife, Michelle, "will keep those who have lost so much in our thoughts and prayers."

Hampered by power and communications outages, officials in the South Pacific islands struggled to determine damage and casualties.

Samoan police commissioner Lilo Maiava told The Associated Press that police there had confirmed 63 deaths but that officials were still searching the devastated areas, so the number of deaths might rise soon.

At least 30 people were killed on American Samoa, Gov. Togiola Tulafono said, adding that the toll was expected to rise as emergency crews were recovering bodies overnight.

"I don't think anybody is going to be spared in this disaster," said Tulafono, who was in Hawaii for a conference. He added that a member of his extended family was among the dead in the disaster.

Authorities in Tonga confirmed at least six additional people dead in the island nation west of the Samoas, New Zealand's acting Prime Minister Bill English said. He said Tongan officials told him that four people were missing after the tsunami swept ashore on the northern island of Niua.

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd told Seven Network in Australia that two Australians had died, including a 6–year–old girl. The British Foreign Office said one Briton was missing and presumed dead.

Samoan Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi looked shaken Wednesday on board a flight from Auckland, New Zealand, to the Samoan capital of Apia.

"So much has gone. So many people are gone," he told reporters on board. "I'm so shocked, so saddened by all the loss."

Malielegaoi said his own village of Lepa was destroyed.

"Thankfully, the alarm sounded on the radio and gave people time to climb to higher ground," he said. "But not everyone escaped."

Gov. Tulafono said that because the closeness of the community, "each and every family is going to be affected by someone who's lost their life." He spoke to reporters before boarding a Coast Guard C–130 plane in Hawaii to return home. The plane, which also carried officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and aid, was scheduled to arrive at about 7 a.m. local time (2 p.m. EDT; 1800 GMT). The U.S. disaster agency said it was also preparing supplies stored in Hawaii for transport to the island chain.

A New Zealand P3 Orion maritime surveillance airplane had reached the region Wednesday afternoon and had searched for survivors off the coast, he said. It was expected to resume searching at first light.

The Samoa Red Cross estimated that about 15,000 people were affected by the tsunami.

New Zealander Graeme Ansell said the Samoan beach village of Sau Sau Beach Fale was leveled.

"It was very quick. The whole village has been wiped out," Ansell told New Zealand's National Radio from a hill near Samoa's capital, Apia. "There's not a building standing. We've all clambered up hills, and one of our party has a broken leg. There will be people in a great lot of need 'round here."

Residents in both Samoa and American Samoa reported being shaken awake by the quake early Tuesday, which lasted two to three minutes and was centered about 20 miles (30 kilometers) below the ocean floor. It was followed by at least three large aftershocks of at least 5.6 magnitude.

The quake came Tuesday morning for the Samoas, which lie just east of the international dateline. For Asia–Pacific countries on the other side of the line, it was already Wednesday.

The dominant industry in American Samoa –– tuna canneries –– was also affected. Chicken of the Sea's tuna packing plant in American Samoa was forced to close although the facility wasn't damaged, the San Diego–based company said.

The effects of the tsunami could be felt nearly 5,000 miles away (7,500 kilometers) on a Japanese island, though there were no reports of damage or injuries there.

U.S. officials said strong currents and dangerous waves were forecast from California to Washington state. No major flooding was expected, however. In Los Angeles, lifeguards said they would clear beaches at about 8 p.m.

While the earthquake and tsunami were big, they were not on the same scale of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, said Brian Atwater of the U.S. Geological Survey in Seattle. That tsunami killed more than 230,000 in a dozen countries across Asia.

Sagapolutele reported from Pago Pago, American Samoa. Associated Press writers Ray Lilley in Wellington, New Zealand; Jaymes Song and Herbert A. Sample in Honolulu and Seth Borenstein and Michele Salcedo in Washington contributed to this report.

Services offered: Information Resource * (ANY/ALL Types); Media Coverage; Media, Online News Reports; News Source, Online, Disaster Coverage
Campaigns: 2009 American Samoa Tsunami
Updated Dec 22, 2009 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/4618

American Samoa Government, Homeland Security

Info/Hotline · Open

Government
AS
Phone (684) 633–2827
Contact Deputy Director, Jacinta G. Brown
Email jbrown@americansamoa.gov
Web www.americansamoa.gov/departments/dhs/dhs.htm
Service Temporary
Campaigns: 2009 American Samoa Tsunami
Updated Oct 1, 2009 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/4624

Congregational Christian Church

Walk–in Resource · Open

Church
AS
Web www.oikoumene.org/en/member–churches/regions/pacific/samoa/congregational–christian–church–in–samoa.html
Service Temporary

from the website:

The Congregational Christian Church in Samoa traces its beginnings to the arrival in 1830 of missionaries sent by the London Missionary Society, accompanied by missionary teachers from Tahiti and the Cook Islands and a Samoan couple from Tonga. They arrived at a time of fierce warfare and fighting between local chiefs, and the people who were weary of violence and bloodshed readily received the missionary's gospel of peace.
When a renowned paramount chief of a much respected family lineage officially accepted the new religion, all his followers and kinsfolk immediately followed suit. Within a few years, virtually the whole of Samoa was converted to Christianity. A burning zeal for the gospel was engendered within the spirit of the newly converted nation. Huge numbers of people soon offered themselves for overseas mission work. In 1839, only nine years after the arrival of the LMS, the first twelve Samoan missionaries left for mission work in Melanesia. Ever since then, and up to 1975, Samoans have continued to take the gospel message to other Pacific islands, e.g. Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Niue, Tokelau, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Wallis & Fortuna. Many of these early Samoan missionaries never returned home; they occupy many of the un–named and unmarked graves in the islands of the Pacific.

Within the first years of their work, the LMS missionaries developed a Samoan alphabet and put the language into written form. The setting–up of the first printing press in Samoa (1839), only the second in the Pacific region, was a mark of the missionary zeal to bring the people to understand the gospel through the written word. By 1855 the whole Bible was translated into Samoan. The missionaries also introduced a monthly journal – the Church Chronicle – which continues to this day. Malua Theological College was established in 1844, with the main objective to teach and educate local students so that each village of Samoa would eventually have a theologically educated pastor as spiritual leader. By the end of the 19th century, a pattern of ministry had emerged. It was modeled on the Samoan village structural organization and aimed at preserving, as much as possible, the value systems of the Samoan way of life. The church community functions in the same way as the village, where five main groups – matais (titled men), spouses of matais, untitled men, unmarried women, and children – each have their own individual and corporate roles and responsibilities for the maintenance of order and welfare. The village congregation is the basic unit of the CCCS with the pastor as the spiritual leader.

The Samoan church during the missionary period engaged itself in the "social redemption of humanity". This vision was based on the church's understanding of God's sovereignty. It saw the divine purpose of redemption not in individual terms only but also in corporate, social and political terms. The newly acquired faith had its focus on the transformation of life and society. That legacy remains a motivating force in the nation's idealism as well as in the church's commitment to active social efforts. The church has been able to maintain five high schools, one girls' college and one theological college.

Since the second half of the 20th century, the Samoan church has continued to forge ecumenical relationships with other churches locally, regionally and internationally. Now it has become a transnational church with eight districts (synod or diocese) outside Samoa: one in the USA, one in Hawaii, three in Australia and three in New Zealand. It has one congregation each in Fiji and American Samoa.

Last updated:01/01/06
Campaigns: 2009 American Samoa Tsunami
Updated Oct 1, 2009 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/4629