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Lieutenant Governor Speaks at the Opening of the 2022 Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Summer Youth Employment Program.

“It is important that they see the meaning of professionalism, understand good work ethic, and get an inside look on how our government works for our people,” stated Acting Governor Talauega.

On Monday, June 27, 2022, the American Samoa Department of Human Resources (DHR) officially opened the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Summer Youth Employment Program at the Veterans Stadium in Tafuna.

“Preparation for Tomorrow starts Today” (O le Tapenaga mo Taea e Amata Nei) is the theme for this year’s program; as expected, over 1,000 participants were in attendance.

Following the event, Acting Governor Talauega stated, “The purpose of this program is to help our youth understand the skill sets needed for all employment levels. It is important that they see the meaning of professionalism, understand good work ethic, and get an inside look at how our government works for our people,” He continued, “There have been some great talented individuals that have continued working at their assigned jobs even after the summer was over because they worked hard, proved that they were willing to learn, and built a skill set that government offices needed. Now, those individuals are taking classes at the American Samoa Community College, while serving the Territory. I hope the participants take advantage of the same opportunity, and I wish them good luck.”

Eligible participants between the ages of 16-24 are placed “based on their interest, income status, barriers to employment, and individual employment assessments. The WIOA is a partnership between all private sector businesses, non-profit organizations, government agencies, educational institutions, and communities through youth and workforce development.



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