

**Young Couples Program
Saleaula, Fagamalo, Avao
3rd & 4th September 2012**

Young Couples Program was conducted to help promote effective communication and decision making skills between couples on Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) issues and resolving family disputes in a non violent – manner. A two day educational program was held for Saleaula, Fagamalo and Avao on the 3rd and 4th of September to raise their understanding on Sexual Reproductive Health, Convention for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and raising awareness of couples as parents on positive parenting. Lastly they also learned about the linkages of the communication component of livelihood skills to improve their self esteem to understand each other's expectations in relationships and family life.

It was a productive seminar for all involved as women and their partners were able to take this session as an opportunity to strengthen their bonds as husband and wives, increase their knowledge on positive parenting in regards to ways they can discipline their children rather than using corporal punishment as a disciplinary act. Furthermore, raise their awareness on the issue of domestic violence and alternative ways they can solve and deal with family conflicts in a non-violent manner.

The participants showed interests in learning about Sexual Reproductive Health in regards to family planning. This particular part of the seminar was delivered by Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA). The session was well received amongst the participants with their active participation by asking questions that the staff was happy to answer and also showed positive feedbacks. It was a positive initiative to combat some of the emerging issues in the country such as sexual reproductive health and domestic violence. We would like to acknowledge the Sui Tamaita'i o Nu'u (STN) of targeted villages, Division for Youth and Samoa Family Health

Association (SFHA) for their continuous support in delivering these programs for our community.



