

Ministry of Health

Human Resource Section
Newsletter June 2020
Vol.5 No.VI



“Together we make a Difference”



Training: 1486

Leave: 1440

Recruitment: 1422

DDHR Direct Line: 7400403

**My Tonga, Your Tonga, Our
Tonga**

Fighting Covid-19



: Ministry of Health,

1st floor Administration Office

Malo e lelei & Welcome

Welcome to another month of “Making a Difference” with your very own Human Resource Admin! To all MOH staff, it has been a while since distributing, rather than pondering on our lateness, we would like to extend our warm welcome and humble services of supplying what’s going on in MOH :D

Malo ‘aupito from the team to our CEO, Dr ‘Akau’ola, on providing us with “COVID19 – a Time of Challenges and Opportunities for MOH”, soft reminders to all staff of MOH, the importance of using challenges as opportunities for great achievements and advancements during this pandemic

This edition will attempt to keep you all updated on staff news and reminders for MOH for the year 2020

Hope you enjoy!

PS- We do welcome if you would like to put in anything monthly

Content Page

Message from the CEO.....pg 3

Appointments.....pg 5

Promotions.....pg 6

Resignation.....pg 7

Retirement.....pg 7

Working Events for June 2020.....pg 8

Important Dates & Gentle Reminders.....pg 11

Random & Fun Corner.....pg 12

Best Wishes.....pg 13

Deepest Condolences.....pg 13

Message from the CEO



One enlightened philosopher said that the satisfaction and happiness achieved by someone should never be determined by surrounding challenges, but rather, by how one *responds* to those challenges. As an example, a person who used to depend on financial remittances from overseas to pay for his needs, can look at the challenge of falling remittances caused by Covid 19, as either an opportunity or just a challenge. As an opportunity, he can *respond* by seeking assistance to plough his land, grow his crops, feed his farm-animals in order to adequately provide for his needs and his

family and to sell the excess products, to become richer in the long run and be able to give away to others too. Or, he can *respond* differently by blaming the falling remittances caused by Covid19 on Government and start feeling sorry for himself and getting frustrated, at the same time - doing nothing. Ultimately, he will end up having little option available for him to feed himself and his family and will get poorer in the long run and be a burden to everyone else.

Fortunately, the ability to *respond* appropriately in the right way is within everyone's individual power to make. No one can force anyone to respond in a certain way if that person does not give his or her consent. That is the fundamental law of freedom to choose. And that is the title of our short article today. Covid 19 as a challenge; our *response* can make it either an opportunity or otherwise. In the Bible, there is a fascinating story there about how David defeated Goliath. A lot of people believe that without Goliath (the challenge), David would not have been a hero. David made the right *response* to this challenge since he knew that the Spirit of God was within him, at all times.

Ministry of Health staff at all levels – as a supervisor, colleagues, co-worker or just friends, are encouraged always to use challenges faced, through their individual *responses*, to change them into exciting opportunities for improvements and growth. This is what a lot of people call the “can do attitude”, which builds individuals, families, communities and a nation. This is how MOH should face the Covid 19 challenge.

Tonga is in a very favourable position at this point in time with regards to Covid19 – we are still covid free. We have had some time to prepare ourselves, to better assess risks, to learn on what works and what does not work in other countries, to build our health systems within our means and so forth.

We have achieved a lot in the following areas of Governance/Monitoring, Port of Entry Preparedness, Risk Communication and Community Involvement, Surveillance and Rapid Response, Infection/Protection/Control, Case Management Preparedness, Laboratory Capacity, Logistics and Support, and in sustaining the delivery of essential health services for the public.

Within a short period of 3 to 4 months, in collaboration with Government departments and agencies, NGOs, Development Partners such as WB, ADB, WHO, Government Representatives of Australia, NZ, PRC, Japan, Canada and others; we have put together a plan, carried out so many activities at a cost of a couple of millions of pa'anga; even though these new activities were not budgeted in the 2019-2020 FY budget. On top of the Covid19 challenge, TC Harold came along and posed another challenge along the way. When one reflects on the extensive collaborations that have been going on behind the scene, to make these all work out well, one cannot help but simply be amazed! Where did that money come from at such short notice? Where did the energy of all those dedicated people involved to make it all happen come from? Like David who faced Goliath, I would like to think that MOH and partners knew that the Spirit of God was within all of them and made the right *responses* to the challenge of Covid19, turning it into a huge opportunity!!

I want to congratulate with sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone involved in all work related to Covid19 preparedness and response activities. Firstly, to the Hon Prime Minister, Minister of Health and Cabinet. To the Acting Medical Superintendent, CMO Public Health, A/CNO, DCS and all divisional and sectional heads of MOH. To other Government Ministries, NGOs and Development Partners.

Thank you for work well done so far. But there are still more challenges to face and more opportunities!

To re-emphasize the key message - to use all challenges as opportunities through well thought out and smart responses. Even when Tonga opens up its border, when MOH and others run the quarantine facility, when we identify our first positive Covid19 case in Tonga; we all know that we can *respond* appropriately to all these challenges and change them all into opportunities.

May the Grace and Peace of God be with you all.

Malo



Dr. Siale 'Akau'ola
Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Health

1. APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations to our new appointees and a very warm welcome to the Ministry of Health!

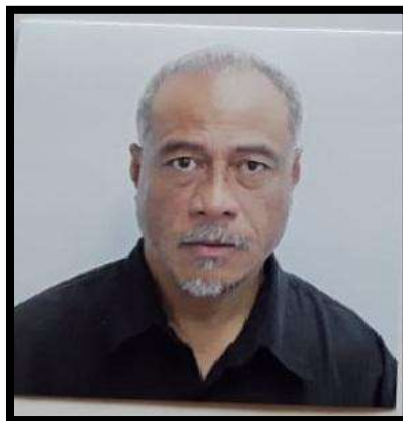
STAFF NAMES	POSITION TITLE
1. Hakiti Mafi 2. Samiu Tovi	Oxygen Plant Operator
Tilila Tupou	Telephone Operator
Talita Moimoi	Client Liaison Officer
Rueben Vea	Computer Operator Grade II
Siniva Manu	Health Promotion Officer Grade II
Siulolovao Moleni Vea	Senior Human Resource Administrator
Teresa Vehikite	Junior Medical Recorder
'Ana Pole	Accounting Officer Diplomate
'Ana Liava'a	Computer Assistant
Sela Fifita	Public Health Assistant Grade II
Taulango Senituli	Caretaker
1. Mele Mafi 2. Fehoko Tu'ineau	Sterile Supply Assistant
Lutoviko Mataele	Hospital Security Officer
Kalisi Lasike	Caretaker
Talafungani Losina	Dental Receptionist
'Asaeli Taufa	Driver
1. Queen 'Eseta Taufa 2. Mele'ofa Tamale	Psychiatric Assistant Grade II
Soana Taulepa	Sanitation Officer
Dr 'Atonio 'Apikotoa	Dental Officer
1. Seini 'Olie 2. Ta'ofitau Lolo	Associate Intern Medical Officer
Viliani Tongamana	Public Health Inspector Grade I
Fetuli Langi	Water Maintenance Officer

2. PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to these hard-working and well-deserved officers!

<u>STAFF NAMES</u>	<u>NEW POSITIONS</u>
Dr. Lemisio Sa'ale*	Chief Medical Officer
Dr. Duke Mataka	Senior Medical Officer
Semisi Finau	Deputy Director for Facilities and Transport
Samisoni Mafile'o	Deputy Director of Procurement & Contract Management
Sioape Kupu	Principal Health Planning Officer
Sabrina Cocker	Senior Accountant
Lamisingi Niutupu'ivaha	Medical Storeman
Lisi Lemeki	Senior Nursing Sister in Charge Niu'eiki Hospital
Moli Kiola	Senior Human Resource Administrator
Kaloni Finau	Senior Public Health Sister
Kahoa Faleafa	Health Promotion Officer GI

**** WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE DR. LEMISIO SA'ALE,
OUR NEW CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE AT PRINCE NGU
HOSPITAL, VAVA'U***



3. RESIGNATION

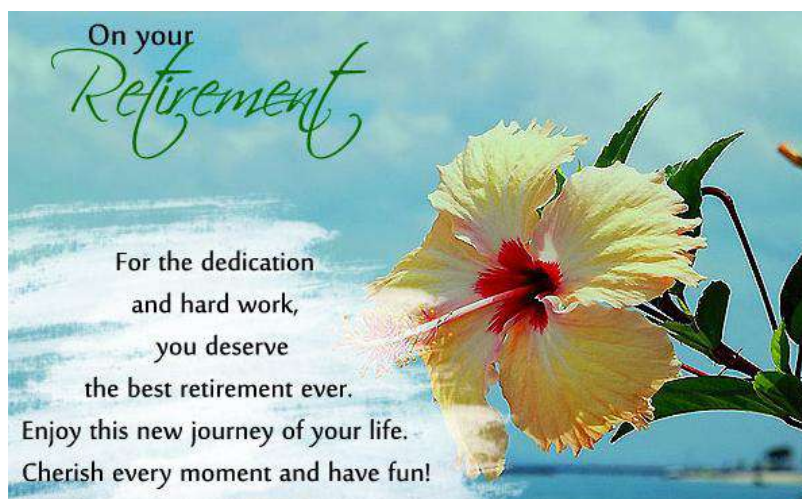
Best wishes on your future endeavors!

<u>STAFF NAMES</u>	<u>POSITIONS</u>
Maika Fungalei	Staff Nurse Diplomat
Dr. Seventeen Toumoua	Senior Medical Officer
'Apakasi Luka	Staff Nurse Diplomat

4. RETIREMENT

Thank you for your service and your hard-work for the Ministry!

<u>STAFF NAMES</u>	<u>POSITIONS</u>
Leo 'Onesi	Groundskeeper
Kafo'atu Tu'ivailala	Dental Sterile Supply Assistant
Sione Halahala	Senior Dental Therapist
Mele Finau	Senior Nursing Sister
Kalolaine Latu	Senior Nursing Sister



5) **WORKING EVENTS FOR JUNE 2020:**

Official Opening of the
Molecular Biology Room



*HR Section organizing and catering for the
Opening Ceremony*





*Human Resource Team paving the way of going
CLEAN, GREEN AND HEALTHY! We like to eat
healthy and shake it healthy*





After a successful running of fingers across clean shelves, the HR ended it with a good feast to mark end of FY and a good inspection result 😊



6) Important Dates & Gentle Reminders

PMS Assessment for Financial Year 2019/2020 has been distributed to all Departments and Sections' Immediate Supervisors/ Head of Departments of the Ministry.

PMS final assessment has commenced on Monday 22nd June 2020.

Due date of this assessment to the CEO's office is on the 31st July 2020.

For any further enquiries please contact Miss Moli Kiola, extension #1417 or email orange.fanua97@gmail.com

6.1) SICK LEAVES

All employees are entitled to 30 days sick leaves (Inpatient) and 15 days sick leave (outpatient) with full pay.

6.2) Casual Leaves

All employees are entitled to 7 working days casual leaves with full pay.

6.3) Annual leave

All employees are entitled to 20 working days with full pay.

6.4) Submission of a Resignation Letter:

Here is but very precise instructions for you when applying for Resignation:

- You must submit a letter of resignation, and state clearly the date of effect. (i.e. the date of when to commence your resignation)
- This letter is to be submitted within 20 days
- As well, you must fill in an exit form which is available from HR office. This form is simple and self-explanatory. It will have to be approved by your HOD and then forwarded to the DOH for final approval.

All the instructions given above are simple and easy to follow. All that is required is for you to hand in your resignation letter together with the complete exit form within 20 days, counting from the date of your resignation letter. Your application will be responded to within no time at all.

6.5) Retirement Submission:

If you are at the retirement age, you must submit a letter of retirement, clearly stating the date of which you wish to commence, and this will be submitted together with your birth-certificate. All these must be within 20 days counting from the date of your letter.

6.6) Scholarship:

For all scholarship holder of the Ministry, please remember - on completion of your of studies, to submit your completion letter & transcripts and it is your sworn responsibility to return and work for the Ministry. Thank you!

7) Random and Fun Corner

The bits and pieces to bring a smile to start off your day!!!

Motivational Quote for today...

“The Will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential....those are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence”

Fun Fact for the Day:

Did you know that the 100 folds in a chef’s hat represents 100 ways to cook an egg? If no, then now you do! So if you are a person who hates waiting for the food to be ready, there is always 100 ways to cook an egg. Quick and easy

Quick, Healthy and Yummy Recipe:

Ingredients	Directions
Kosher Salt or Salt	Halve each cucumber lengthwise and, with side of chef’s knife, bash it slightly to crush, then cut each half into 4 to 6 chunks. Transfer cucumbers to bowl and toss with 2 tsp salt. Let sit 10 minutes
2 tbsp Sesame oil	
1 tbsp Sesame seeds	
1 tbsp low Sodium soy sauce	
½ tbsp Lemon Juice	Meanwhile, in large bowl, whisk together sesame oil, sesame seeds, soy sauce, lemon juice, ginger, and honey.
1 tsp Grated peeled ginger	
Honey	Transfer cucumbers to colander and rinse, then shake off as much water as possible. Add to bowl with dressing and toss to combine, then toss with cilantro. Serve drizzled with chili oil if desired.
1/3 coriander, roughly chopped	
Chili oil, for serving	
	Serve and Enjoy!



Exercising Tip:

If you want a body like Beyonce, here are 2 tips to get you started!

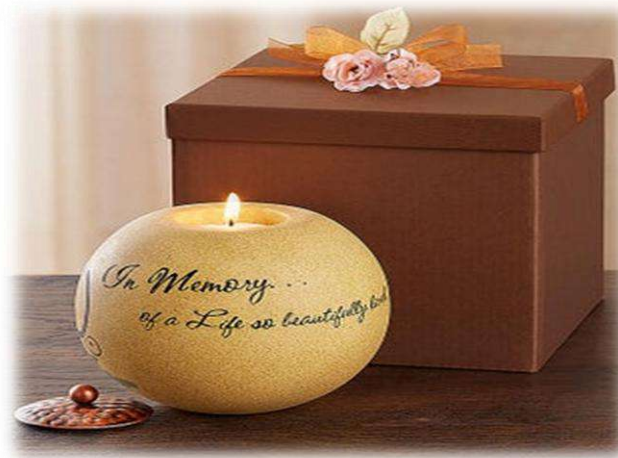
1. **Be aware of your body.** Think about how the particular exercise is making you feel. If something doesn’t feel right, stop immediately and seek medical advice.
2. **Warm up and cool down.** Try slow stretches and go through the motions of your sport or activity before starting. Cool down with slow stretching.

8) Best Wishes:

Best wishes and many, many more days to come your way, for all Staff of the Ministry whose birthdays are within the month of June, God bless you always and guide you. Happy, Joyous birthday to you!!!

**9) Deepest Condolences:**

Let us not forget our dear co-workers who have lost a loved one during past months and this month June 2020. We offer you our love and prayers that you find peace and May the Lord be with you during this time.



Thank you to all who helped writing this newsletter to keep you all informed from the HR department. Malo aupito and 'ofa atu.