INNOVATIVE **READINESS TRAINING**



October 2018 | NEWSLETTER

Annual Workshop Delivers Critical Training for FY2019 Missions

More than 100 participants attended the 2018 IRT Joint Workshop for Operational Mission Planners in Tysons Corner, VA from September 18 – 20. The



Audience members received an breakout exercises. introduction to the IRT mission planning life cycle and learned the steps to complete a successful mission. A Public Affairs briefing included instructions on how to speak publicly about IRT and garner community interest in applying for an IRT mission. A mixed audience of Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air force (Active, Guard, Reserve) received a unique opportunity to collaborate in a joint environment similar to what they can expect on their upcoming FY19 missions.

purpose of the workshop was to provide mission participants and planners an opportunity to meet their Service Component **Program Manager and network** across the various missions and components that comprise IRT. Agenda items included information sessions, an IRT awards ceremony, community panel Q&A, and multiple

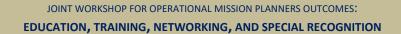
WORKSHOP STATISTICS **108** ATTENDEES **20** SPEAKERS 18 HOURS OF TRAINING **12** TRAINING SESSIONS

Over 23 distinguished visitors and special guests attended this year's workshop. Guests included FY18 community partners, mission participants, and their friends and family. Mr. Judd Lyons, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Integration delivered opening remarks on the importance of IRT



within DoD. Major General Mary Link, AR MEDCOM CO, expressed the positive impacts IRT has on military members and on American communities. "In planning IRT missions, [participants] have to understand the community needs, where to focus, and make sure a referral network is in

place....it all builds the planning skills and readiness that severely lack in other annual training events" MG Link presented the 2018 IRT Awards alongside Mr. Lyons.





IRT: Bringing Value to DoD

ENHANCE MILITARY READINESS

IRT provides hands-on, real-world training to improve readiness and survivability in contingency environments

STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

IRT builds and strengthens civil-military partnerships, often in remote areas

BRING BUSINESS REFORMS

IRT is a collaborative program that leverages military contributions and community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Priscilla "Kalani" Holokai Logistics Chair, State of Hawaii Department of HealthAward Recipient 2018 IRT Champion of the Year



"The IRT mission in Maui County has been tremendous. People are still walking up to us saying what a wonderful mission it was."

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Capt Jennifer Fagan, Air National Guard, moderated this year's Community Panel Q&A session. Four panelists discussed their experiences in IRT; including success stories, challenges, and recommendations for future missions. Participants gained



lessons learned to take with them into their FY19 missions based on community panel reflection as well as answers to questions posed by the audience. The discussion provided

valuable insight into the resources brought to the table by both parties in civil-military partnerships and ways to leverage them effectively. The prevailing word of advice from all panelists was that 'communication is key' to a succesful mission. This includes understanding how to communicate as well as understanding what certain words, phrases, or acyronyms mean. The panel frequently returned to the value of maintaining a positive spirit during missions. Panelist Mark Gandolfini, Superintendent of Administration, West VA Schools for the Deaf and Blind, talked about the value of optimism when facing challenges. "Even if only one screw got turned, it's more than we have today", said Gandolfini.

A Big 'IRT Thank You' to Our 2018 Workshop Community Panelists!

Mark Gandolfini

Superintendent of Administration, West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind, Romney, WV

<u>Oscar Munoz</u> Director, Colonias Program, College of Architecture, Texas A&M University

<u>Adam Walker</u> Director of Operations, *St. Joseph's/Candler Health System, Savannah, GA*

<u>Priscilla "Kalani" Holokai</u> Logistics Chair, *State of Hawaii Department of Health*

We accept applications for non-OASD funded missions all year! http://irt.defense.gov/FAQs/

IRT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/IRT.InnovativeReadinessTraining/

SERVICE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

CDR SCOTT OZAKI

MISSION OIC, ARCTIC CARE 4TH DENTAL BATTALION, 4TH MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, MARINE

FORCES RESERVE



The IRT Leader of the Year was awarded to CDR Scott Ozaki for his outstanding leadership in the face of fiscal constraints and environmental austerity during Arctic Care 2018. "IRT Arctic Care was a valuable operational training evolution that allowed our military providers the opportunity to provide care to a very appreciative and underserved community." – CDR Ozaki

2018 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

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Read about last year's IRT projects! <u>http://irt.defense.gov/Projects/</u>



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