



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING



The Premier Military Training Platform for a Secure and Prosperous America

April 2019 | NEWSLETTER

Providing Medical Services to American Indians in California and North Dakota

This summer the Army Reserve will conduct medical IRT missions in North Dakota and California, which will bring services to American Indians while providing critical hands-on military training in a real world environment. Since 1994, IRT has partnered with [Operation Walking Shield \(OWS\)](#), an organization working to improve the quality of life for American Indian families by coordinating programs that provide shelter, healthcare, community development support, and educational assistance. Through its partnership with OWS, the IRT program has provided services to over 100,000 American Indians, delivered over 900 miles of roads, drilled dozens of water wells, and installed several miles of new sewer and water lines to improve existing infrastructure conditions on American Indian reservations. IRT has conducted over 100 projects on reservations. This year, the IRT missions will focus on Medical training, bringing critical medical services to American Indians.¹



IRT Missions Provide Healthcare to Communities Across the US. Sgt. Christopher Mattingly, an eye specialist with the 7218th Medical Support Unit, out of Louisville, Kentucky, screens tribal elder Faron Jackson Sr. during an Innovative Readiness Training exercise at the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School in Bena, Minnesota, July 18, 2018. Photo by Pvt. Hunter

A representative from the Army Reserve Medical Command (ARMEDCOM) recently described the impact of this mission to the Military, “Operation Walking Shield (OWS) is a very humbling and rewarding mission for the Soldiers in AR-MEDCOM. Our medical providers, technicians and specialist use this Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) experience to increase their proficiency as they encounter different populations with various

medical conditions. OWS provides valuable training opportunities and real world experiences for our Soldiers to ensure they are prepared and trained in their "go to war" skill sets and provides elite patient care to a population identified as being in critical need of additional medical services. The OWS missions affords AR-MEDCOM Soldiers the opportunity to execute their joint planning operations knowledge when they coordinate with other branches of the Armed Forces, Local Government, and Community Leaders to fruition. Finally, it provides our Soldiers the exposure to other cultures they would otherwise not have the opportunity to experience.”

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

IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

SPIRIT LAKE AND K'IMAW

Leadership, Joint Training

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Walking Shield

Dr. John Castillo, Executive Director



Dr. John Castillo, Executive Director (left), Mr. Marvin Thurman Operation Walking Shield, Manager (right)

“Operation Walking Shield has been involved with the military IRT Program since its inception, providing Infrastructure and Medical support on Indian Reservations experiencing third world conditions. It is an excellent training opportunity that enhances deployment readiness and give the soldiers real world training. In addition, it also improves the quality of life for individuals living on the reservations. This a win-win for both the DoD and American Indian Communities.”

<http://irt.defense.gov/>



¹ Operation Walking Shield Website, Accessed at: <https://walkingshield.org/operation-walking-shield/>



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OSD UPDATE

MAJOR CLETIS DEREK BUTLER

ARMY RESERVE PROGRAM MANAGER



"Working in the IRT program has been an incredibly rewarding experience. I look forward to a successful 2019 IRT season."

CONTACT US!

The OSD Application Portal is new and improved! If you are interested in applying for a mission, please visit www.irt.defense.gov and submit an application through the online application portal.

APPLICATION HELP DESK

For technical support with completing an application, please email our application support desk at IRTHelpDesk@lmi.org.

For urgent questions regarding the application portal, please call 703-917-7121.

OSD PROGRAM OFFICE

For general questions about IRT please email our office at osd.irt@mail.mil.

To speak to an IRT staff member, please call our office at 703-695-7060.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please share your IRT photos and stories on social media!



IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Jan 3 – Apr 30: Conservancy Airfield Damage Repair, CA
- Mar 4 – Jul 28: MTK Camp Kamassa, MS
- May 3: Department of Education, PR (DV Day)
- Apr 1 – Sept 15: Operation Footprint Mission, NM
- Apr 1 – Apr 5: Tri-State Medical, DAEOC (FPM)
- Apr 8 – Sept 15: Girl Scout Camp Paumalu, HI
- Apr 22 – Apr 26: East Central Georgia Medical, GA (FPM)
- Apr 25 - May 8: Ola de Esperanza Sanadora, PR
- Apr 29 – Aug 10: Dept. of Education, PR
- May 6 – June 6: Talbot Medical & Dental, GA
- Sept 17 – Sept 19: Joint IRT Workshop

2019 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

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