



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING



The Premier Military Training Platform for a Secure and Prosperous America

May 2019 | NEWSLETTER

Operation Footprint Provides Homes for Navajo Families

From April 1 through September 15, 2019, Navy Reservists will provide engineering support to residents in the Navajo Community in New Mexico for the 22nd consecutive year. This longstanding IRT project has enabled the Southwest Indian Foundation (SWIF) to provide more housing than would be possible without the Military's support.



Example of Navajo Home built by Operation Footprint

In 2016, the Navaho Housing Authority (NHA) reported a shortage of 34,000 homes on the Navaho reservation. SWIF reported that same year that the average per capita income on the Navajo Reservation was \$6,217. A spokesperson from SWIF explained that more than 50 percent of the Navajo population on the reservation is below the poverty level, and about 43 percent of the labor force is unemployed.¹ While providing homes to a community in need, the mission also offers training in all phases of construction, including carpentry, electrical, plumbing, roofing, drywall and painting.

"This IRT is the real deal," said Brian Mixan, NMCB 22's project manager for a previous IRT. "This is exactly the way that we build residential construction in the real world, thus the skills [the Seabees] obtained translate into employable skills outside of the Navy. They also translate into experience that they can use on [Naval Construction Force] projects in the future."²



Construction of building components, May 2019
Photo by Chief Amber Sigler

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

OPERATION FOOTPRINT

Civil Engineering, Construction

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Jeremy Boucher, Director
Southwest Indian Foundation Project Office



"We are very thankful for the long standing partnership with IRT. Over the last 20 years, over 270 homeless Navajo families have received new homes. We could not have done a small fraction of that without the hard work of the IRT troops."

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



¹ <https://www.afrc.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/815718/training-strengthens-navajo-nation/>, Accessed 5.24.2019

² <https://www.stripes.com/news/seabees-training-builds-homes-for-navajo-families-1.427620>, Accessed 5.24.2019



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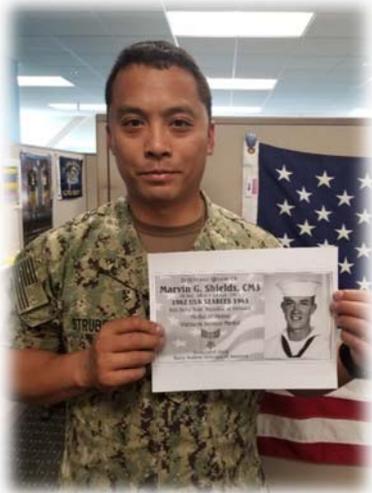
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OSD UPDATE

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOSHUA STRUBECK

NAVY RESERVE PROGRAM MANAGER



Navy Reserve Program Manager LCDR Joshua Strubeck is passionate about two things: IRT and [Medal of Honor recipient Marvin Shields](#).

COLONIAS IRT MISSION

JULY 1 – 29, 2019
TEXAS



Norma, SGT Peters, and SFC Harris establishing contact with an Oilton Colonia resident

“The Colonias IRT Mission gives our Soldiers an excellent opportunity to practice and enhance our Civil Affairs skill sets in a permissive environment while providing infrastructure data to Webb County and Texas A&M University that elevate the living conditions for United States citizens. During the exercise, some of the training objectives we will augment and evaluate include ‘Conducting Civil Information Management,’ ‘Conduct KLE,’ and ‘Use of Interpreter.’”

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Mar 4 – Jul 28: MTK Camp Kamassa, MS
- Apr 1 – Sept 15: Operation Footprint Mission, NM
- 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
- May 6 – June 6: Talbot Medical & Dental, GA
- June 1 – June 30: Pima County Roadway, AZ
- June 11 – June 25: East Central Georgia Medical, GA
- June 12 – June 25: Tri-State Medical, DAEOC
- Sept 17 – Sept 19: Joint IRT Workshop, VA

2019 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

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

