



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING



The Premier Military Training Platform for a Secure and Prosperous America

OCTOBER 2020 | NEWSLETTER

Recognizing Mission Contributions

Each year, incredible and inspiring IRT stories unfold in the field. Many of these tales go untold as selfless and dedicated Service Members commit to excellence in training through their efforts on IRT missions around the United States. Increasingly, the IRT website (irt.defense.gov) and social media channels (@IRT'sWin) chronicle the training value and lasting benefits delivered through civil-military partnerships.

To further recognize the importance of not only highlighting, but celebrating, these outstanding contributions, the IRT program annually acknowledges contributions in five award categories—Leader of the Year, Participant of the Year, Civil-Military Partnership of the Year, Champion of the Year, and Program Manager of the Year. Each of these embodies the values of the IRT program. The program accepts award nominations from military mission participants year-round as well as community partners during and after missions. The assistant secretary of defense signs the awards and the ceremony offers a moment of reflection and an opportunity to celebrate the hard work and success of the past year.

Since its inception, annual IRT Awards have been bestowed on 18 recipients—a worthy cohort of Service Members and community partners who have advanced the mission of IRT through enhanced military readiness. On September 2, 2020, the following individuals and organizations received a 2020 Annual IRT Award.

Annual IRT Award Categories

Leader of the Year
Second Lieutenant Eric Arnold
Air National Guard

Participant of the Year
Staff Sergeant Matthew Hawkins
Marine Corps Reserves

Civil-Military Partnership of the Year
City of Unalaska, Qawalangin Tribe &
Army 351st Civil Affairs Command

Champion of the Year
Mr. Joel Evans
Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation

Program Manager of the Year
Major Morgan Shepard-Vierra
Army National Guard

We began highlighting these winners in the September newsletter and will do so through the November issue. Especially during a year like this one, these awards demonstrate that, despite many challenges, the IRT program exemplifies courage, adaptability, and innovation. Despite a global pandemic, our commitment to training safely has not faltered and the program appreciates the time and efforts of all our mission planners, participants, and community partners.

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 REFORM

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

IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

Mission Planning
Project Management
Virtual Technology Integration

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Col Jaclyn Chatwick

Director
Civil Military Programs



“Congratulations to all nominees and award winners! I congratulate you on your success and I wish you all the best for future achievements!”

IRT leaders and staff are closely monitoring the COVID-19 public health situation. We provide updated information on our website concerning its effect on our FY 2020 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.



IRT.DEFENSE.GOV



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2020 IRT CHAMPION OF THE YEAR AWARD

Mr. JOEL EVANS

PRESIDENT AND CEO
DELTA AREA ECONOMIC CORPORATION



Mr. Evans showed selfless devotion of personal time, commitment, and support to the IRT program since 2012. Through extensive outreach, Mr. Evans promoted IRT in his local network while also encouraging community members and other organizations to get involved with IRT projects. Additionally, he continues to serve IRT in his newly appointed role on the IRT Community Assembly.

2020 IRT LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD

2D LT ERIC ARNOLD, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

172D CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON
IRT CAMP KAMASSA MISSION



Lt Arnold displayed outstanding leadership during the Camp Kamassa IRT mission. He led critical training for a joint force of 99 service members through timely completion of construction activity during the mission. Lt Arnold also led a large effort to repurpose 6,000 N95 face masks to medical facilities across the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Lt Arnold's unrivaled leadership led to over \$150,000 in cost savings to the community partner.

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Oct 13: IRT Program Manager Monthly Meeting
- Oct 19-23: Kodiak Artic Care Initial Planning Meeting
- Oct 27-29: IRT Program Manager Quarterly Working Group
- Nov 03-06: Operation Healthy Delta, Initial Planning Meeting
- Nov 11: Mare Island Cemetary Rededication Ceremony, CA
- Nov 16-20: Central Delaware Partnership for Hope
Initial Planning Meeting
- Nov 26-20: Delta Wellness, Initial Planning Meeting
- Nov 30-Dec 04: East Central Georgia, Initial Planning Meeting

FY 2021 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

- First Lieutenant Jessica Campbell
Army Reserve | Army Active Duty
- Captain Jason Schwartz
Army National Guard
- Major Andrew Chrestman
Marine Corps Reserve | Marine Corps Active Duty
- Commander Kent Bubel
Navy Reserve | Navy Active Duty
- Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Adamich
Air National Guard | Air Force Active Duty
- Lieutenant Colonel Joshua Furby
Air Force Reserve