



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a
Secure and Prosperous America



FEBRUARY 2021 | NEWSLETTER

Initial Planning Meetings: The Foundation to IRT Mission Success

Ever wonder how IRT missions begin? Months before Service Members deploy to communities across America, training starts with a series of planning meetings. The first, the initial planning meeting (IPM), begins 6 months prior to a mission's start, followed by the mid-planning meeting (MPM) (90 days prior) and final planning meeting (FPM) (45 days prior). These meetings give participants the essential training and preparation needed to ensure mission success.

The decisions, challenges, and outcomes encountered during IRT planning meetings are not unlike those faced when preparing for deployment overseas. Participants work through all elements of mission planning to identify and coordinate preparation efforts for food services, bed-down locations, equipment, fuel needs, administrative items, and more. Certain mission types have unique requirements that are unearthed during the IPM. For example, construction missions have permitting timelines and building material storage needs while medical missions have credentialing requirements and must coordinate with the medical asset management site.

Regardless of mission type, the IPM is the first touchpoint between the military and civilians in the community. Mission Officers-In-Charge and Non-Commissioned Officers-In-Charge work closely with their community partner to manage all aspects of meeting logistics, from scheduling to agenda setting to conference space accommodations, and follow up on action items coming out of the meeting. With sustained COVID-19 travel and gathering restrictions many IPMs are held virtually via videoconference. An impressive total of 21 IPMs have taken place so far during this fiscal year.

In addition, IRT Program Managers connect mission planners with resources to ensure planning meeting success. These resources include briefing templates, checklists, best practices, contact information, and availability to step in and advise when needed. The IPM, MPM, and FPM each receives a dedicated overview and guided discussion as topic areas at the IRT Annual Workshop for Operational Mission Planners.

Follow this link to browse recorded sessions from last year's workshop, including sessions that pertain to planning meetings: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuHG1tTNNyR4_OEEiXXgMV1bn7JYw2n-m.



While many have gone virtual due to COVID-19, planning meetings are typically held in person between IRT mission planners and the community. (Pre-Pandemic Appalachian Care 2019 IPM)

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

Initial Planning Meetings
Contingency Planning
Civil-Military Partnerships
Resource Management

IRT Leadership Team

Colonel Jaclyn Chatwick, Director
Colonel George Koklanaris, Deputy Director
Captain Jennifer Ryan, Operations Officer
Captain Kelly Machado, Public Affairs Officer
Senior Master Sergeant Alexander Wilson, Superintendent

Congratulations on Your Retirement!

CMSgt Todd Jones

Deputy IRT Program Manager
Air Force Reserve



On June 1, 2021, CMSgt Jones will retire with over 34 years of service, including 13 years of Active Duty. His career occupations include Aerospace Ground Equipment Technician, Air Force Engineering Specialist, and Deputy IRT Program Manager. His first IRT mission was Helemano (2007-08) and he joined the IRT staff in 2015. We wish you the best!

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 2021 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.



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OSD STAFF HIGHLIGHT

LCDR SHANNON GANGLER

NAVY RESERVE
MEDICAL PROJECT MANAGER



"The IRT Program is unlike any other training opportunity available to Navy Reservists. Those who have been lucky enough to participate in an IRT mission will tell you that it was a career milestone for them, and that the IRT mission has reminded them of why they chose to serve!"

SERVICE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

SMSGT ANDREA ESTES

IRT ASSET MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM MANAGER



"I have had the pleasure of working with the IRT program since 2017, giving the reserve Airmen that worked with me the opportunity to train and hone their skills for over the road transportation. For the last eight months, I have been part of Asset Management, and have gotten to see the full scope of what IRT supports. This has allowed me the opportunity to work with all the branches of service, see the impact of the missions IRT has supported, and get to know some of our community partners. I am truly blessed to be a part of this amazing program and hope to keep supporting it in the future."

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

Feb 22	Operation Healthy Delta 2021 MPM
Feb 23	K'ima:w Medical Center/OWS IPM
Feb 23-25	Monthly IRT Program Manager Working Group Meeting
Feb 24	Rooster Crow Park MPM
Mar 1	Delta Wellness MPM
Mar 1	Camp Kamassa Mission Start FPM
Mar 2	Cherokee Veteran's Housing Initiative FPM
Mar 8	Central Delaware Partnership for Hope MPM
Mar 8	Webb County, TX Medical FPM
Mar 8	Catalina Island Road Repair Project FPM
Mar 8	IRT Camp Carter FPM

FY 2021 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

Captain 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