



# INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a  
Secure and Prosperous America

MAY 2021 | NEWSLETTER

## In-Facility Training Opportunities

What do community fairgrounds, a school gymnasium, and a vast parking lot have in common? All are archetypal IRT mission sites. Yet, this is not always the case. Some missions offer in-facility training. This type of operation brings Service Members into a community partner's building to utilize the equipment inside to accomplish training objectives. This month, we highlight two FY 2021 missions fitting this model.

A recurring IRT partnership with the Indian Health Service, this year's Operation Walking Shield in Belcourt, North Dakota, delivered military training while supplying medical care across multiple medical specialties. Led by the Army Reserve and supported by the Active Duty Army, Service Members trained inside the Quentin N. Burdick Memorial Health Care Facility from May 1 to 15. This space simulated real-world conditions when circumstances require commandeering a hospital to address mass casualty scenarios. Thankfully, this was solely a training exercise, but it enabled peoples of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa to receive no-cost access to general medicine, oral exams, and optometry services.

We also highlight Idaho Cyber—a mission lasting from April 1 to September 30 in partnership between the Army National Guard and the Idaho Office of the Governor. A niche team of 12 Soldiers are working with the Information Technology (IT) Services division of Idaho to find and mitigate critical risks that support core government business functions on-premises as well as in the cloud. A newer mission type in the IRT portfolio, cybersecurity (cyber) mission training assists our Service Members with facing new and emerging threats in the cyber domain. In addition to training on software platforms, cyber missions offer in-facility opportunities for Service Members to enter IT installation sites to assess hardware infrastructure.

Whether in-facility or not, all IRT mission sites furnish the space to facilitate valuable training exercises. Site surveys before or during the mission planning meetings address suitability of locations proposed by the community partner. Refer to our February 2021 newsletter to learn more about mission planning meetings.



*LTC Darla Zeisset providing a briefing at the final planning meeting for Turtle Mountain IRT mission.*

### 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

In-Facility Medical Training  
Cybersecurity  
Joint Operations

### 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

### Service Member Spotlight

**LTC Darla Zeisset, MS**  
Army Reserve  
Mission OIC, Turtle Mountain

"Innovative Readiness Training is an exceptional opportunity to train the Army Reserve's next generation of leaders in a real-world environment while serving our communities.



Service Members fully embrace civil-military operational training events, lead to lasting, mutually beneficial community partnerships."

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](http://irt.defense.gov) regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.



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## SERVICE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### MAJ KIMBERLY EBEL

AIR FORCE RESERVE  
APPALACHIAN CARE OIC



*"IRT is a unique opportunity to work side by side, hand in hand, with all the military service branches. We accomplish critical competency training to enhance mission readiness while serving the medical needs of local communities—a truly rewarding experience. The relationships and camaraderie we establish during these missions become lasting bonds that prevail well beyond the completion of IRT projects."*

[Click here to see more of what Maj Ebel has to say about IRT.](#)

## OSD STAFF HIGHLIGHT

### 1LT KEYIRRA KING

ARMY RESERVE  
IRT MCS OIC/MEDICAL LOGISTICS PROJECT MANAGER



*"I have had the honor to lead Soldiers while building rapport with DoD Civilians and external agencies. It is very rewarding to support a training platform that benefits communities throughout the United States and its territories. I am humbled that 3d MCDS, OSD, and Program Managers place their faith and trust in me to strategically plan and implement medical logistics initiatives that will carry the IRT Program into the future."*

## IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- May 12: Kodiak Island Arctic Care DV Day
- May 12: Catalina Island Road Repair Project DV Day
- May 13: Camp Carter DV Day
- May 20: Pima County Roadwork Mission Start
- May 25: Telida Skid Steer Mission Start
- May 27: Pima County Roadwork DV Day
- June 01: Tulsa County Sheriff's Office Mission Start
- June 03: Operation Footprint DV Day
- June 16: East Central Georgia DV Day

## 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