



# INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a  
Secure and Prosperous America

JUNE 2021 | NEWSLETTER

## Kodiak Arctic Care

From May 3 through May 15, Air Force Active Duty Service Members partnered with the Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA) to deliver no-cost medical services to residents across seven sites of care in Alaska's remote Kodiak Island borough. This joint mission included support from the Army Reserve, Army National Guard, Marine Corps Reserve, Navy Reserve, and Air National Guard. Training opportunities in medical, air lift, logistics, veterinary, civil affairs, and communications specialties sustained readiness for 514 Service Members while treating 2,156 patients and accomplishing 11,406 procedures; including fabrication and distribution of 631 pairs of eyeglasses.

In addition to the City of Kodiak, the remaining mission sites were in the villages of Akhiok, Karluk, Larsen Bay, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, and Port Lions. The austere environment, challenging terrain, and arctic weather patterns simulated real-world deployment conditions possible for Service Members in forward deployed environments. These opportunities are not like traditional training. Elaborating on the value and uniqueness of this exercise, Operations Officer In Charge (OIC), Capt Andrew Auerbach, Air Force, added that "allowing junior-ranking Service Members the opportunity to lead IRT missions grants a huge return on investment for developing our future leaders."

Celebrating the fourth iteration of Arctic Care and its second occurrence in Kodiak, the Distinguished Visitor (DV) Day on May 12 brought together invitees from across the community, government, and the military to witness training in action through a guided tour that included patient care areas, the pharmacy, meal preparation, classrooms, bed down facilities, and a sling load demonstration. This mission would not have been possible without the support of the community partner. KANA provides integrated wellness services to the entire Kodiak Island community with focus on Alaska Native beneficiaries. KANA implements its cultural values to serve our community members when and where they need care. Their repeat partnership with IRT is just one of many that the program maintains with 501(c) nonprofits that represent interests of tribal or native groups.

This mission provided interagency training as well. IRT would like to thank all Coast Guard personnel stationed on the island for preparatory assistance in the months leading up the mission and for providing space for bedding and Command and Control (C2) facilities. Additionally, the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) contributed to the success of this mission and IRT looks forward to continued interagency cooperation in civil-military partnerships to come.



*U.S. Marines with VMM-764, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, provided logistical support by conducting external sling loads with an MV-22 Osprey in Kodiak, Alaska. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Ryan Schmid)*

### 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

Medical Training  
Air Lift Operations  
Logistics  
Civil Affairs

### 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

### OSD Staff Highlight

#### SSgt Gavriel S. Fleischman

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve  
USMC Service Project Manager

*"The IRT program is an outstanding source of training for our Marine Corps units. It combines the integration of active and reserve component units, realistic training, and preparation for deployment while yielding tangible results, such as supplying and enabling medical care for our country's most impoverished citizens and improving infrastructure in our country's most disadvantaged areas. We look forward to expanding our footprint and tapping into the unique training opportunities of this program."*



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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## ARCTIC CARE 2021 MISSION OIC

**CAPT ANDREW R. AUERBACH**

AIR FORCE

OIC, MEDICAL READINESS PLANS & PROGRAMS



*"IRT is the perfect local training opportunity for the military. No other program melds joint force, total force, and interagency operations with actual mission experience in a low-risk environment. The planning process alone is invaluable, and mission execution experience is incredible."*

*Instead of an exercise with simulations, you are able to work through real world issues with real consequences and truly get after military readiness training. Allowing our junior-ranking members the opportunity to lead IRT missions grants a huge return on investment for developing our future leaders. And the community partnerships are simply beautiful; the chance to help fellow Americans is precious. These are opportunities people remember for a lifetime!"*

## COMMUNITY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**NICHOLE PRUITT**

GRANTS DIRECTOR

KODIAK AREA NATIVE ASSOCIATION



*"I was honored to serve as the community partner point of contact to help plan Arctic Care 2021, which brought no-cost healthcare services to the communities of Kodiak Island, Alaska. Being a part of this mission allowed me to give back to my community in such a meaningful way, in addition to giving me the opportunity to meet and work alongside so many dedicated and passionate people; this has been the highlight of my career."*

## IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- June 17: Operation Coal Country Mission Start
- June 17: Operation Healthy Delta DV Day
- June 22: Nueces County DV Day
- June 25: Operation Coal Country DV Day
- July 1: Camp Paumalu DV Day
- July 7: Delta Wellness Mission Start
- July 9: Operation Gateway Mission Start
- July 12: Cleveland National Forest—Dams Mission Start
- July 12: Rooster Crow Park Mission Start
- July 12: Old Harbor Hydroelectric Project Road Mission Start

## 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