



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a
Secure and Prosperous America

AUGUST 2021 | NEWSLETTER

Operation Gateway Delivers Medical Training

From 9–22 July, the U.S. Air Force Reserve led Operation Gateway in partnership with the Kentucky Department for Local Government. This joint medical mission supplied no-cost healthcare services to residents in the Gateway Area Development District (GADD) of Kentucky. Supporting units from the Army Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Navy Reserve, and Air National Guard trained in multiple medical occupational specialties, including optometry, dietary, dentistry, pharmacology, aerospace medicine, medical service management, and general medicine.

This civil-military partnership in Kentucky furnished training to Service Members that replicated deployment conditions while delivering care to 2,579 patients across multiple sites in five rural counties: Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, and Rowan. The services benefited a region defined by the Appalachian Regional Commission as economically distressed with unemployment levels higher than the national average and many residents lacking access to basic healthcare services. The training provided and care administered built on prior IRT successes in partnership with the Kentucky Department for Local Government, including Operation Coal Country in 2019 and Operation Bobcat in 2018.

This partnership displays the value that civil-military collaboration delivers to American communities. This year's project brought together Service Members to complete a total of 12,606 procedures—3,347 for optometry, 4,395 for dental, and 4,864 for medical—amounting to \$1,025,578 in community benefit. A staggering 1,078 pairs of single-prescription eyeglasses were prepared and distributed over the course of the two-week mission. During this exercise, community members gained increased health education and awareness through patient counseling.

Like those before and yet to come, this mission's training opportunities are unique in the Department of Defense. IRT training is hands-on, takes place in complex environments, and offers Joint services experience. Learn more about our program at irt.defense.gov.



GADD employees presented with award from IRT Program Managers to recognize mission support. Left to Right: Robin Purvis, Emily Jordan, Joshua Farrow, Derris Stanland, Matthew Cooper, Benjamin Hamm

DEFEND THE NATION

IRT provides hands-on, real-world training to improve readiness and survivability in complex contingency environments

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

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

TAKE CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

IRT strengthens and builds partnerships, while providing key services for American communities utilizing joint training operations

IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

Optometry
Dental
General Medicine

IRT Leadership Team

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

Community Partner Spotlight

Joshua Farrow
Operation Gateway
Executive Director of the Gateway Area Development District

"The mission was a success and exceeded all expectations," Gateway Area Development District's Executive Director, Mr. Joshua Farrow, stated. "Gateway Area Development District is both proud and humbled to have been part of such a great project that helped so many people in our region. We are grateful to have been given the opportunity to partner with the Department of Defense and the Kentucky Department for Local Government to facilitate Operation Gateway Kentucky. IRTs are win-win programs supplying invaluable services to our citizens, while also providing real-world training to our service members."

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

CPT SCOTT A. HILL

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
UNFUNDED MISSION PROGRAM MANAGER



Welcome to the IRT team!

"Maya Angelou once said, 'I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.' IRT embodies that quote. Never have I seen so many lives touched for the better. It is amazing to be a part of the process!"

OSD STAFF HIGHLIGHT

SMSGT DEANTE A. HOUSTON

AIR FORCE RESERVE
MEDICAL PROJECT MANAGER



Thank you for your service and lasting contributions.

"The IRT Program offers invaluable hands-on readiness and leadership training opportunities for Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and U.S. public health service professionals. As an added benefit, the IRT Program provides no-cost healthcare services to medically underserved communities!"

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Aug 1: Cass Lake IHS Operation Walking Shield Mission End
- Aug 1: Louisiana School or Agriculture Parking Surface Mission End
- Aug 2: Cleveland National Forest – Cabins Mission Start
- Aug 4: Central Delaware Partnership for Hope DV Day
- Aug 5: Cleveland National Forest – Cabins DV Day
- Aug 6: K'ima:w Medical Center/OWS Mission Start
- Aug 12: Central Delaware Partnership for Hope Mission End
- Aug 13: Cleveland National Forest – Cabins Mission End
- Aug 13: Cherokee Veteran's Housing Initiative Mission End
- Aug 14: K'ima:w Medical Center/OWS DV Day
- Aug 20: K'ima:w Medical Center/OWS Mission End
- Aug 21: Camp Kamassa Mission End
- Aug 27: Old Harbor Hydroelectric Project Road DV Day

FY 2021 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

- Major Daniel Lavorgna
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