The Value of Non-OSD-Funded Missions

Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) missions deliver joint training opportunities to increase deployment readiness. An incredibly diverse portfolio of mission types (e.g., healthcare, construction, transportation, civil affairs, and cybersecurity) offers key services with lasting benefits for American communities. While all IRT missions fall under the same authority, not all training requires Office of the Secretary of Defense—(OSD-) funding resources. This month, we explore the two types of mission funding and highlight the value of non-OSD-funded civil-military partnerships.

OSD-funded missions routinely use civil-military training partnerships to contribute to Department of Defense readiness and fulfill annual training requirements for joint Service Members. The long selection process requires coordination with OSD with Community Applications due by September 30 of each year and the associated military applications due May 1 of the following year. Support usually starts in the fiscal year after military application selection. This process is a good fit for complex, large-scale missions involving personnel from multiple military departments.

Non-OSD-funded missions are better suited for smaller-scale, less complex, or local support activities. These missions fit partnerships already established through local, state, or regional support. Benefits include building on relationships and faster approval, leading to earlier training. Non-OSD-funded missions can leverage unique opportunities in communities because of local unit familiarity with the area. Military units can consider opportunities for their own training needs and invite other military units to participate. Although not guaranteed, if a community application is not paired with a military application for OSD funding, the mission could be non-OSD funded on a rolling basis.

While generally smaller in scale, non-OSD-funded missions make an immense impact. When describing the importance of these missions, Army National Guard IRT Unfunded Missions Program Manager CPT Scott Hill stated, “Grass is greener where you water it.” These training opportunities nurture and grow community partnerships while fulfilling training needs.

Kamiah Nimiipuu Health | Idaho

The Army National Guard will partner with the Kamiah Nimiipuu Health organization to provide no-cost clinical care services, including dental care, to the native population. Military medics, nurses, dentists, physician’s assistants, and physicians will receive real-world training in screening, assessing, and treating patients. The Air National Guard will support this mission.

Vehicle Transportation and Parking Entrance | Ohio

The Air National Guard will lead this partnership with Ability Works, Inc., to train engineering site surveyors and heavy equipment operators in the construction and development of drainage, parking lots, tractor trailer operations, and concrete placement.

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 2022 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.
IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

Mar 1: Cherokee Housing FPM
Mar 1: Tropic Care Kauai 2022 MPM
Mar 7: Webb County Medical FPM
Mar 7: Nueces County Emergency Staging Area Improvements FPM
Mar 15: Special Olympics FPM

More information on missions at:

FY 2021 IRT CIVIL-MILITARY PARTNERSHIP OF THE YEAR

GIRL SCOUTS OF HAWAII IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

IRT Civil-Military Partnership of the Year is awarded to the Girl Scouts of Hawaii in partnership with the Air National Guard for skillful collaboration in delivering mission success on the geographically remote and diverse training site of Camp Paumalu. This partnership amplified Joint Service preparedness through construction of eight cabins, improved shower facilities, and improved roads. The strategic impact to the community offers premier science, technology, engineering, and math educational opportunities to girls locally, nationally, and internationally while doubling the camp residential capacity.

FY 2022 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

Major Daniel LaVorgna
Army Reserve | Army Active Duty
Captain Jason Schwartz
Army National Guard
Major Timothy Salvino
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 Kenneth Joseph
Air Force Reserve

IRT.DEFENSE.GOV