# JUNE 2022 | NEWSLETTER

# Kodiak Arctic Care 2022

From May 2 through May 15, the Army Reserve partnered with the Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA) for Kodiak Arctic Care 2022 to deliver no-cost medical services to residents across geographically dispersed care sites in Alaska's remote Kodiak Island borough. This joint mission included support from the Army National Guard, Marine Corps Reserve, Active-Duty Air Force, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve. Additionally, the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) contributed to the success of this mission through a continued interagency cooperation in a civil-military partnership. Training opportunities sustained readiness for Service Members while providing support for healthcare needs within the community. Throughout the mission, Service Members provided more than 6,000 no-cost healthcare procedures including medical, nutrition, behavioral health, podiatry, physical therapy, dental, optometry, and veterinary services to local populations.

In addition to the town of Kodiak, additional sites of care included Akhiok, Ouzinkie, and Karluk. The challenging terrain, arctic



Kodiak Arctic Care mission participant provides an eye exam to a patient.

weather patterns, rural location, lack of communication infrastructure, and difficulty accessing some village communities provided a unique training opportunity which simulated real-world deployment conditions possible for Service Members in forward-deployed environments.

"We aren't using simulators or mannequins to train our Soldiers. We are engaging with real patients—exactly what we would do in a deployed environment—and honing our medical skills while serving the community," explained Major Charles Amanquah, the Officer in Charge and Chief of Logistics/S4 for the 330th Medical Brigade, Fort Sheridan, IL.

Innovative Readiness Training has partnered with KANA previously and the mission would not have been possible without their support. KANA provides integrated wellness services to the entire Kodiak Island community. Their focus is on Alaska Native beneficiaries and specific healthcare issues that may arise within the Native community. Service Members were not only able to receive training for real-world deployment conditions, but they were also able to take part in community building—meeting and interacting with the community they were assisting. IRT's mission has helped foster a deep connection between Service Members and the community, build cultural awareness, and establish lasting relationships.

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 <a href="irt.defense.gov">irt.defense.gov</a> regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.

#### **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

Healthcare Services Logistics Planning Communications Operations

## IRT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Colonel Jaclyn Chatwick, Director Colonel George Koklanaris, Deputy Director Major Chris Brown, Operations Officer Chief Master Sergeant Alexander Wilson, Superintendent

# COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Mike Pfeffer CEO, KANA



"At KANA, we appreciate the opportunity to bring Service Members to Kodiak because of, number one, the healthcare that is provided, but also the relationships that

are established...community members recognize the value of Arctic Care and rally to support."



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# WISHING YOU A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### **IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS**

- June 1: Old Harbor Hydroelectric Rd Mission Start
- Wayne Forest Mission Start June 6:
- Nucces County Emergency Staging Area Improvements Mission Start, Tropic Care Kauai 2022 Mission Start June 10:
- Special Olympics Mission Start NM Cyber Mission Start K'ima, W Medical FPM June 12:
- June 13:
- June 14:
- June 15:
- West Kentucky Wellness Mission Start NM Cyber DV Day, Tropic Care Kauai 2022 DV Day June 16:
- June 17: Saipan Veterinary Mission Start, NM Cyber Mission End, Cyber Tatanka
- Mission Start
- June 19: Nueces Health Mission Start
- June 21:
- June 22:
- Nucces Fleatin Mission Start
  Valley Healthcare FPM, Operation Footprint DV Day
  West Kentucky Wellness DV Day
  Nucces County Emergency Staging Area
  Improvements Mission End & DV Day, Tropic June 24:
- Care Kauai 2022 Mission End June 25:
- West Kentucky Wellness Mission End Nueces Health DV Day June 26:
- June 27: South Central MO Mission Start
- Cyber Tatanka DV Day, Saipan Veterinary DV Day Operation Footprint Mission End, Wayne Forest DV Day June 28:
- June 29:
- Old Harbor Hydroelectric Rd Mission End June 30:

#### More information on missions at:



## 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