



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a
Secure and Prosperous America

APRIL 2023 | NEWSLETTER

IRT Delivers Diverse Training Opportunity

The mission of Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) is to provide Service Members with hands-on, real-world training to increase deployment readiness. Available through the Department of Defense (DoD), Title 10 U.S. Code § 2012, IRT training exercises are often joint with diverse mission scopes to train the skill sets and occupational specialties of Service Members while supplying key services to American communities throughout the United States and its territories. This month's newsletter explores the variety of IRT mission types.



Clockwise from top left: Diverse IRT civil-military training activities include diving, aerial spray, cybersecurity, and transportation missions.

During its 30-year history, medical and civil engineering missions have been classic examples of IRT training. For these missions, at the request of community partners, Service Members train together while offering no-cost healthcare clinics in remote areas, fabricating lenses for patients in need of glasses, constructing homes for localities with residents who face housing challenges, building camp facilities for persons with disabilities, and much more. However, the scope of military training activities does not end there. Any eligible community request for assistance with a scope of work satisfying military training requirements can become an IRT mission. Other mission types include civil affairs, diving, emergency planning, sling load, transportation, aerial spray, and cybersecurity.

Despite the broad possible mission types, the program does have some restrictions on IRT civil-military training opportunities, as follows:

- Takes place in the U.S. and its territories.
- Accomplishes mission-essential training.
- Results in 100 hours of training or more.
- Does not compete with the private sector.
- Does not include commercial development.
- Does not include military members providing law enforcement.
- Does not respond to natural or manmade disasters.

For valid military training requirements, diverse IRT mission types leverage a wide breadth of skills, experiences, and leadership opportunities, oftentimes in joint environments not typical of training exercises. These qualities make IRT unique in the DoD and a value-added option to enhance unit and individual readiness across the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force.

Visit irt.defense.gov today and browse the "Missions" menu item to learn about the various types of training activity. Have an idea for an IRT mission? Click the "Apply Now" button on our website to begin your application.

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 2023 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov 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

Civil-Military Partnerships
Mission Planning
Joint Planning

IRT LEADERSHIP TEAM

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

MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

"Congratulations on reaching the halfway point of the FY 2023 mission season! Thank you for all that you do to keep this program running, from managing the operations to overseeing the budget.

We could not do it without your dedication and expertise. As we transition into the mission execution season, we anticipate the successful completion of our missions and our Service Members acquiring essential readiness skills."



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OSD STAFF MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

LCDR SHAUN SHILLADY

NAVY RESERVE

PROGRAM MANAGER, INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING



I consider it an honor and the highlight of my military career to have been a part of the IRT program as a participant, the Navy Reserve Medicine Medical Program Manager, and now the overall Program Manager for the Navy's Active Duty and Reserve sailors' participation. The hands-on, real-life skills attained in a non-practice environment is immensely useful in preparing our clinical soldiers and sailors for treating patients in any environment throughout their service. Combining that experience with the comradery of working with our sister services and the incredible value we are providing to our communities in need results in a win-win scenario for all.

OSD STAFF MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

SFC MARIO AQUINO

ARMY RESERVE

RESOURCE ADVISOR, INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

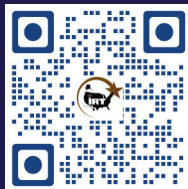


Since joining the IRT team, I have learned the types of collaborative missions of the IRT program for our communities nationwide. The way our branches come together to promote mission-ready forces and civil-military partnership is fulfilling. I found a sense of purpose while helping American communities. We work regularly with other joint forces. I never thought I would have a unique broadening opportunity like this in my 22-year Army career.

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Apr 1: Outdoor Odyssey Leadership Academy Mission Start
- Apr 3: Guam Wellness Mid Planning Meeting (MPM)
- Apr 4: Idaho Nimiipuu Health 2023 Final Planning Meeting (FPM)
- Apr 4: Kaua'i Emergency Management Agency (KEMA) Emergency Shelter Survey FPM
- Apr 10: Healthy Tennesseans FPM
- Apr 10: New Mexico Cybershield FPM
- Apr 11: Cherokee Veterans Housing Initiative 2023 FPM
- Apr 11: Regional Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Center FPM
- Apr 12: Nueces County Community Needs Assessment FPM
- Apr 17: Hoosier Care FPM
- Apr 17: Improving the Health of Nueces County 2023 FPM
- Apr 17: Mississippi's Toughest Kids (MTK) Camp Kamassa 2023 FPM
- Apr 23: New York (NY) Healthy Delaware FPM
- Apr 24: Operation Healthy Delta 2023 FPM
- Apr 30: Operation Footprint 2023 Mission End

More information
on missions at:



FY 2023 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

Major Daniel LaVorgna
Army Reserve | Army Active Duty

Captain Scott Thurman
Army National Guard

Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Salvino
Marine Corps Reserve | Marine Corps Active Duty

Lieutenant Commander Shaun Shillady
Navy Reserve | Navy Active Duty

Lieutenant Colonel Steven Johnson
Air National Guard | Air Force Active Duty

Chief Master Sergeant Rebecca Coulombe
Air Force Reserve