



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a
Secure and Prosperous America



JANUARY 2024 | NEWSLETTER

Planning and Beyond: 2024 Mission Season Takes Shape

As Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 continues into the second quarter, the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) mission season continues to take shape. Leaders across the joint Services share the Office of the Secretary of Defense’s (OSD’s) optimism for what may become IRT’s largest annual portfolio to date. The military departments have collectively submitted applications for 50 civil military partnerships—or “missions” as they are known—to conduct readiness training exercises while simultaneously delivering incidental benefits to American communities.



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Aaron Razayeski, a Consolidated Asset Management Site ground transport specialist for IRT, unloads medical equipment containers.

If fully funded by Congress, the proposed portfolio is projected to train approximately 7,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines across 26 states and territories. It includes a blend of OSD-funded and non-OSD-funded missions, 15 of which offer joint training opportunities. These missions encompass 17 civil engineering projects, 18 no-cost healthcare clinics, seven cybersecurity exercises, four transportation activities, two aerials sprays, one civil affairs mission, and one emergency operations planning event. Service Members will train on a diverse range of broad skill sets, including healthcare, construction, logistics planning, communications, operations, computer networking, civil affairs, and leadership in a joint environment.

Throughout the year, IRT leaders hold initial, mid, and final planning meetings. This three-part planning process mirrors deployment planning, through participant mission-essential training. Leaders work through all elements of mission planning to uncover and resolve issues, such as pinpointing locations for bed-down, clinic sites, and food services. They review site concerns, such as communications and transportation challenges. Over the next year, we will build on the successes of the FY23 mission year and share the training value and lasting benefits that IRT delivers to American communities through our newsletter, website (irt.defense.gov), and social media channels, including Facebook, X, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Over the last few months, IRT has spotlighted FY23 Award Winners, who have exemplified an impressive display of service, excellence, and commitment to training. These awardees reflect the virtues shared among planners and participants.

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
- Joint Mission Planning
- Medical Training

IRT LEADERSHIP TEAM

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

NIMIIPUU HEALTH COMMUNITY MILITARY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

R. Kim Hartwig, MD
Nimiipuu Health Medical Director



“We are grateful for this opportunity to work with the National Guard in service of our communities and Nimiipuu Health. This experience has been very beneficial in many aspects: from logistics and interpersonal communication to reinforcing relationships with regional entities for the benefit of all our communities. We look forward to continuing this meaningful collaboration for many years.”

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 FY24 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.



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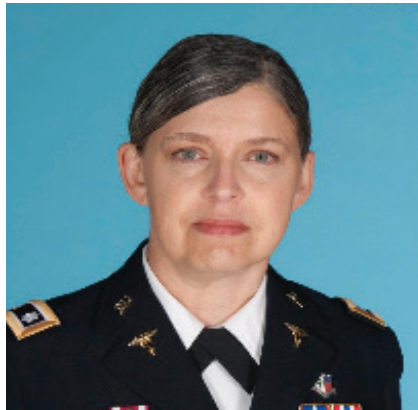


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FY23 IRT AWARD WINNER HIGHLIGHT

LIEUTENANT COLONEL TINA WILLIAMS

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
LEADER OF THE YEAR (O4-ABOVE)



Leader of the Year (O4-above) is awarded to Lieutenant Colonel Tina Williams, Army National Guard, for her excellence in leadership as the Lead Mission Planner for the Nimiipuu Health FY23 mission (not present to receive the award in person—the Idaho National Guard presented her award in a separate award ceremony). The Leader of the Year award recognizes individuals who plan and execute IRT missions while displaying exemplary leadership in identifying opportunities to increase readiness and encourage collaboration and innovation. LTC Williams exemplified these accomplishments by providing unwavering leadership to over 120 Service Members from the Idaho Army National Guard and the Arizona and Minnesota Air Guards, coordinating the reception of inventory, setup, and calibration of equipment and Class VIII supplies between two sites separated by over 400 miles. This award was virtually presented by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Integration, Mr. Judd Lyons, joined by IRT Director, Colonel Jaclyn Chatwick.

FY23 IRT AWARD WINNER HIGHLIGHT

WILLIAM HALVERSON CHAMPION OF THE YEAR



Champion of the Year is awarded to Mr. William Halverson (not present to receive the award in person), the lead community partner and sole liaison for the New Mexico Cybershield mission. He is recognized for his tireless support coordinating local, regional, state, and tribal entities to ensure seamless execution of training events. Through Mr. Halverson's efforts, 57 military personnel supported the mission, received hands-on training, and enabled \$250,000 in penetrations testing services to support local critical infrastructure and training for 41 Central New Mexico and tribal students. This award was virtually presented by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Integration, Mr. Judd Lyons, joined by IRT Director, Colonel Jaclyn Chatwick.

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Jan 8: FY24 CO 9Health Fair Supply Transportation Mid-Planning Meeting (MPM)
- Jan 9: FY24 AK Kodiak Area Wide Residential Construction to Invest in Communities (ARCTIC) Wellness Medical MPM
- Jan 9: FY24 AR Madison & Newton CO Medical Initial Planning Meeting (IPM)
- Jan 9: FY24 GA Americus Southwest Medical IPM
- Jan 10: FY24 KY Green River Medical IPM
- Jan 15: FY24 MT Blackfeet Tribal Health Operation Walking Shield Medical IPM
- Jan 15: FY24 AK ARCTIC Materials Transport MPM
- Jan 22: FY24 CA Hoopa K'imaw Medical Center Medical MPM
- Jan 22: FY24 VI Wellness Medical MPM
- Jan 23: FY24 NE Tatanka Cyber MPM
- Jan 29: FY24 AK Eyak Native Village Shepard Point Prince William Sound Construction MPM II
- Jan 29: FY24 CA Santa Cruz Island Reserve Transportation MPM
- Jan 30: FY24 Virgin Island Wellness MPM

More information
on missions at:



FY24 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