



# INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a  
Secure and Prosperous America



JUNE 2025 | NEWSLETTER

## IRT Delivers No-Cost Medical Care in Missouri

From April 28 to May 7, the Air Force Reserve partnered with the Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation to conduct Operation Healthy Delta, a medical support activity in Sikeston, Missouri. Supported by the active duty Air Force and Air National Guard, 75 Airmen provided services such as dental care, optometry, and wellness checks at no cost to attendees. Participants came from 35 units across 20 states and included personnel from medical, logistics, finance, administration, public affairs, contracting, and force support fields.



*U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Neal Brooks, 355th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron optometry technician, examines a patient's eyes during Operation Healthy Delta in Sikeston, Missouri, April 28, 2025.*

Over the course of the support activity, service members facilitated approximately 9,808 medical procedures across an estimated 2,464 patient visits, including approximately 347 dental checkups, 230 medical evaluations, 1,021 wellness center interactions, and 866 optometry screenings. In addition, optometry services distributed an estimated total of 934 pairs of glasses to the community. Service members received approximately 4,002 hours of real-world training and delivered an estimated fair market value of \$594,634 to the community.

“Part of our training, of course, is to allow our techs to see a whole breadth of knowledge and experiences,” said Capt. Shannon Tribley, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Grissom ARB and Operation Healthy Delta IRT Director of Operations. “We’ve had a couple of unique experiences here where we had a member going through a routine eye exam, and because we have some extremely helpful diagnostic equipment here, our optometrist diagnosed a potential brain tumor. This is a condition that would have potentially blinded, if not killed, the member had we not caught it.”

The training also included an intensive 40-hour course called Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), which equips military personnel with the foundational skills to handle life-threatening injuries in combat and emergency situations. Participants also built on the skills they learned in TCCC by taking a Medic-X course. Medic-X delves into more advanced medical techniques and decision-making processes, preparing military medics to handle a wider range of complex medical scenarios. This comprehensive training ensures that service members are well-prepared to respond to emergencies both on and off the battlefield.

“This is my seventh IRT,” Tribley said. “I think that you do one IRT and it gets in your blood. The team is so amazing here—everybody has come together and made it happen.”

IRT’s civil-military partnerships continue to strengthen relationships between military members and American communities, enhance unit and deployment readiness for service members, and provide essential services to local communities. To learn more, visit [irt.defense.gov](https://irt.defense.gov).

### UNITY OF PURPOSE

IRT strengthens joint coordination and hands-on military training that ensures real-world readiness and mission success in complex contingency environments.

### ACCOUNTABILITY & INNOVATION

IRT increases fiscal discipline, ensuring best use of DoD resources for cutting-edge military training and threat resilience for American communities.

### READINESS & LEADERSHIP

IRT develops strong military leaders who are prepared to meet the challenges of deployment, mission success, and deterrence abroad.

### IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- Civil Military Partnerships
- Medical Training
- Joint Planning

### IRT LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Colonel James Hogan, Director
- Colonel Stephen Rubright, Deputy Director
- Major Melford Simpson, Operations Officer
- Chief Master Sergeant Mathew Forster, Superintendent
- Master Sergeant Rachelle Morris, Public Affairs Manager

### COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

#### Joel Evans

Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation  
President and CEO



“I’ll tell you, from my heart, I’m really touched and really too couldn’t be happier that we’re serving the population that are underserved... Many people ask, ‘what do you have to be, what are the requirements to be there?’ We tell them there are no income guidelines, no insurance guidelines, no residency guidelines, all you have to be is a human... It takes a dedicated team who love the missions and give their time and talents selflessly, for a mission to be a truly great experience.”



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## IRT STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### MAJOR JOHN PINEAU

ARMY RESERVE | ARMY ACTIVE DUTY  
PROGRAM MANAGER



“My time in the IRT program provided me with a much better understanding of the civil military partnership program. Further, my experiences in the program broadened my understanding of the relationships between national security objectives, senior civilian leadership, and the military departments. From a functional standpoint, my experience as an IRT program manager provided me with invaluable experience managing budgets within the unique structure of military and larger federal government budgetary processes and systems. This experience will undoubtedly prove invaluable in future senior leadership positions within the Army.”

## CALL FOR IRT LEADERSHIP AWARD NOMINATIONS

Do you know someone who has been exceptional in implementing IRT’s mission? Every year, IRT recognizes individuals who have exhibited outstanding work ethic, innovation, and dedication toward completing an IRT mission and presents them with leadership awards during the IRT Joint Workshop for Operational Mission Planners award ceremony. Nominees can include OSD staff, service members, community partners, and other military and non-military supporters and participants.

Call for nominations begins on June 30th, 2025. To nominate, visit <https://public.huddle.com/b/PYwalD/index.html> and download a nomination form with instructions.

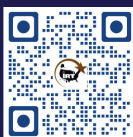
## KEY AWARD DATES

- June 30:** Call for Award Nominations
- July 30:** Call for Award Nominations Closes
- Aug 4:** Voting Panel
- Aug 7:** Award Winners Finalized and Announced by Leadership
- Aug 28:** Awards Presented during Award Ceremony

## IRT EVENTS & SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

- June 1: Operation Healthy MOWA Choctaw, Start Date
- June 1: Operation Build Camp Crockett, DV Day
- June 1: Cyber Nebraska 2025, Start Date
- June 5: Cyber Guam, Final Planning Meeting
- June 5: Salud en Tu Pueblo, DV Day
- June 10: Operation Healthy MOWA Choctaw, DV Day
- June 10: Salud en Tu Pueblo, End Date
- June 11: Operation Build Puerto Rico, Final Planning Meeting
- June 12: Cyber Nebraska 2025, DV Day
- June 15: Operation Healthy MOWA Choctaw, End Date
- June 15: Cyber Nebraska 2025, End Date
- June 16: Operation Healthy Virgin Islands, Start Date
- June 17: Cyber Guam, Start Date
- June 20: Cyber Virginia, Final Planning Meeting
- June 23: Operation Healthy Broome, Final Planning Meeting
- June 24: Operation Footprint, DV Day
- June 25: Operation Outreach Nueces, Final Planning Meeting
- June 25: Operation Build Eyak, DV Day
- June 26: Cyber Guam, DV Day
- June 26: Operation Healthy Virgin Islands, DV Day
- June 26: Operation Outreach Unangan, Start Date
- June 27: Cyber Guam, End Date

More information  
on missions at:



## FY25 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

Major John Pineau  
Army Reserve | Army Active Duty

Captain Scott Thurman  
Army National Guard

Captain Emanuel Mendez  
Marine Corps Reserve | Marine Corps Active Duty

Lieutenant Commander Shaun Shillady  
Navy Reserve | Navy Active Duty

Major Nathaniel Horwitz-Willis  
Air National Guard | Air Force Active Duty

Major Michael Nordin  
Air Force Reserve