

Army reservists gain TAMC, USAHC-SB skills savvy

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Staff Sgt. Eric Wendt, 6253rd USAH, reviews the procedures of pulmonary function tests, using the spirometer to measure lung function, which is helpful in assessing conditions such as asthma, pulmonary fibrosis, cystic fibrosis and COPD during reserve duty, recently.

Story and photo by

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6253rd U.S. Army Hospital Public Affairs

HONOLULU — The 6253rd U.S. Army Hospital (6253rd USAH) provided more than 3,000 clinical care encounters during its annual training mission at Tripler Army Medical Center, here, and at U.S. Army Health Clinic-Schofield Barracks, recently.

The 28 reserve Soldiers from Phoenix were briefed upon arrival on Oahu and then assigned to the appropriate clinical departments at TAMC and USAHC-SB.

The 6253rd personnel then immediately went to work in their corresponding capabilities, as needed, including various clinical departments, such as surgery, emergency medicine, critical care, behavioral health, family medicine, physical therapy, medical logistics, the laboratory, nutrition, radiology, the pharmacy and respiratory services.



Training opportunities

With the combination of civilian medical skills and prior military training experience, Army reserve physicians, nurses, physical therapist and medical specialists were able to work alongside their active components in providing medical services to military personnel, their families and retirees at TAMC and USAHC-SB.

The experience was professionally fulfilling, and it provided an opportunity to meet new people. Sgt. Colt Weddell is a full-time firefighter and emergency medical technician (EMT) who was assigned to the TAMC Emergency Department, for example.

“The TAMC Emergency Department staff was friendly and welcoming to the arrival of the new medics,” said Weddell, combat medic, 6253rd USAH. “They quickly provided training to the group, which helped to integrate us to different teams and departments in the emergency care center.”

TAMC and USAHC-SB provided realistic training opportunities to the reservists at a demanding pace. With the assistance of Weddell, Staff Sgt. Antonio Roldan, Staff Sgt. Chrisantos Rodriguez, Staff Sgt. William Shuart and Sgt. Christopher Gates, TAMC Medical Services was able to improve its response time to a number of critical situations.

After spending two weeks at TAMC, Weddell left with the impression that the quality of care, as well as TAMC’s facilities, were equivalent to some of the best trauma care centers in his home state.

“It’s an extraordinary opportunity to both care for Soldiers and learn new skills in a geographically unique area,” said Capt. Barbara Anderson, physical therapist, 6253rd USAH.

Members concur

“These annual training events develop Army Reserve service members’ practical knowledge and skills, which are crucial to the success of future mobilizations and deployments,” said 1st Lt. Matthew A. Musson, 6253rd USAH.