



**Touching Little Hearts and
Lives with Humanitarian
Missions**

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Objectives

Understand the Military Opportunity to Serve in Pediatric Humanitarian Missions

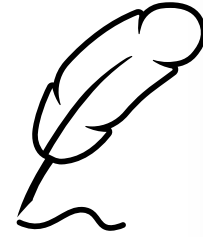
Understand the Skillset and Training Needed for Military Humanitarian Opportunities

Humanitarian Missions History

- “Broadly defined, the act of providing **material assistance** *to people in need* has existed throughout human history, often in the form of food or material aid provided during famine, drought or natural disaster. Yet the **modern concept and system of humanitarian aid** as we know it; **the impartial, independent and neutral provision of aid to those in immediate danger**; has only existed since the mid part of the 20th century.” - Rysback-Smith (Brown University, Emergency Medicine Department, 2016)



- International Aid:



- World War I: Treaty of Versailles
 - League of Nations → United Nations
 - *“Protecting vulnerable populations and maintaining peace”*
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights - 1945
 - *“International precedent for international intervention during both civil and international conflict”*
- UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR Established
- World War II: Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

Humanitarian Missions History



Humanitarian Missions History

- 1918 - Spanish flu Pandemic - Force Health Protection
- 1920 – Flood victim food relief on the Rio Grande
- 1920s – Aviators bomb ice jams preventing flooding / damage
- 1929 – Alabama food assistance delivery
- 1932 – Snow bound severe blizzards supply drops to Navajo Indians in AZ
- 1935 – Lava Diversion in Hawaii with bombs
- 1938 – Air delivered medical aid after Chile earthquake
- 1944 – Flown supplies to France / Netherlands / Europe

- Operation UNITED ASSISTANCE - “First US military operation to support a disease-driven foreign humanitarian assistance mission.” *Ebola 2014-2015*



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Humanitarian Missions History

- **Medical Care**
- **Construction**
- **Disaster Relief**
- **Refugee Assistance**
- **Nation Building**

Humanitarian Missions History

Google:

Military branches involved

- **Air Force:** Airdrops food and medical supplies, rescues people from natural disasters, and prevents the spread of disease [↗](#)
- **Navy:** Provides medical care, distributes supplies, and helps with rescues at sea [↗](#)
- **Army:** Participates in disaster relief efforts, including wildfires and hurricanes [↗](#)
- **National Guard:** Responds to wildfires and other emergencies [↗](#)

Training

Military units also participate in humanitarian exercises to train for these missions. These exercises also provide free medical care to communities. [↗](#)

Air Force 5 Mission Areas:

- Critical Care
- Goodwill Missions
- Global Firefighting
- Aerial Delivery
- Rescue Operations

Humanitarian Missions History

Capabilities

- **Transportation
Isolation System (TIS)**
- **Civil Air Patrol (CAP)**
- **K9 Search and Rescue**

Humanitarian Missions History

Air Force 5 Mission Areas:

- Critical Care
- Goodwill Missions
- Global Firefighting
- **Aerial Delivery***
- Rescue Operations

***Operation CHRISTMAS DROP - 1952**



Humanitarian Missions History

Navy 5 Mission Areas:

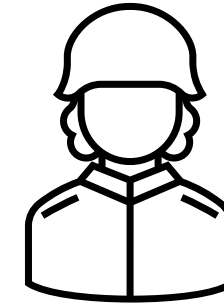
- Disaster Relief
- Rescues at Sea
- Refugee Assistance
- Emergency Medical Assistance
- Nation-Building Activities



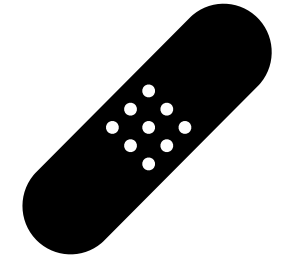
Humanitarian Missions History

Army 6 Mission Areas:

- Search & Rescue
- Safe & Adequate Water
Supply / Disposal
- Adequate Food
- Sufficient Shelter
- Medical Care
- Protection from
Violence &
Harassment

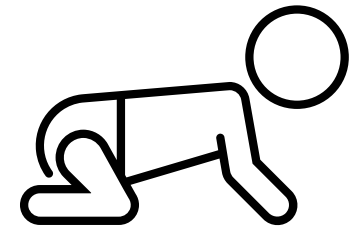


Pediatrics in Humanitarian Missions



Pediatric Humanitarian Care During Wartime →

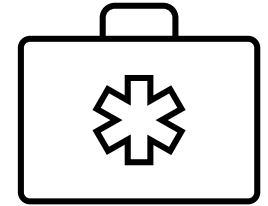
- Direct Pediatric Trauma Care Practices
- Pediatric Surgical Interventions >1/3 of caseload in Humanitarian Field
- 10% of all bed-days
- 63% of pediatric patients required surgery/ortho procedures



Military Pediatricians deployed to Combat Zones → 40%

Military Pediatricians participated in Peacetime Humanitarian Mission → 35.5%

Pediatrics in Humanitarian Missions



The Military Medical Humanitarian Assistance Course (MMHAC)

Department of Pediatrics at Uniformed Services University, 1998

“The explicit goal of providing training for military primary care providers in preparing for and executing appropriate medical care to civilian populations in the austere health emergency setting.”

Pediatrics in Humanitarian Missions



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Diarrhea and Dehydration

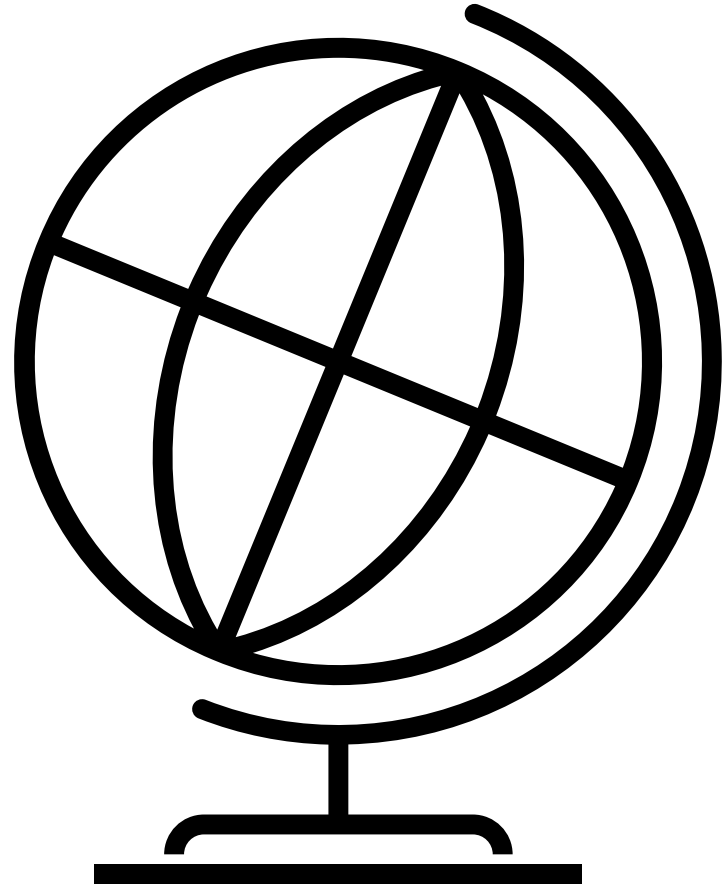
Malnutrition

Epidemic Measles

Malaria

Respiratory Infections

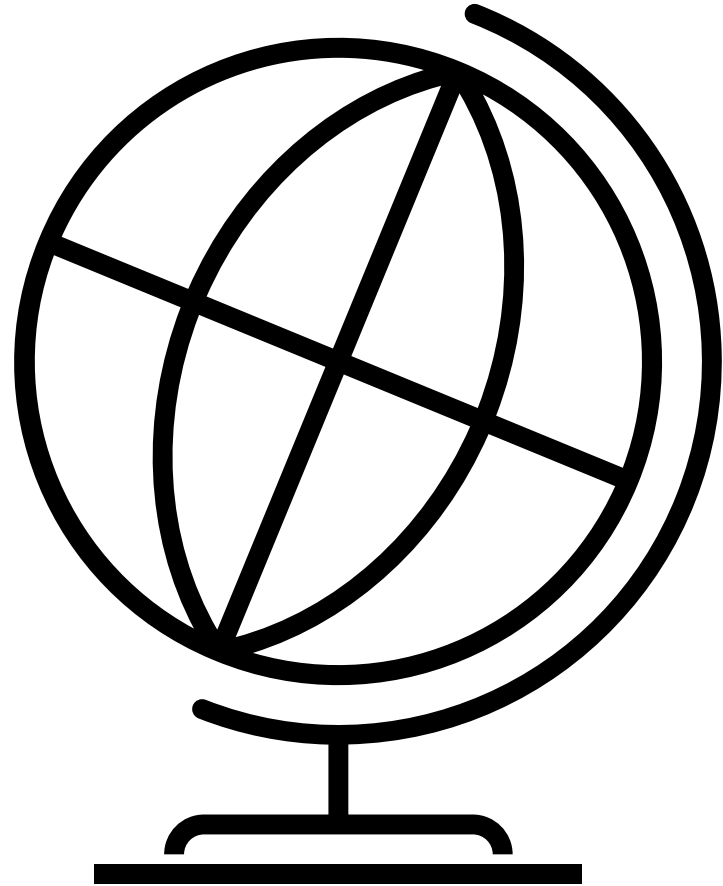
*Focus on Roles Military Medical Assets
would Play as Early Responders to
Humanitarian Emergency with Limited
Resources*



Where's the Impact?

Humanitarian Missions Provide:

- Education / Symposiums / Lectures
- Hands-on Training / Direct Medical Care Provided
- Partnership Strengthening



Where's the Impact?

Providers From All Fields:

- Ophthalmology, Dermatology, EM, Orthopedic, IM, Primary Care, Dental, General Surgery, Pediatrics, Vascular Surgery, Cardiology, Anesthesia, Oral Surgery, Neurology, Gastroenterology, Diabetes Education, Neonatology, Audiology, Optometry, Burn Surgery, Aeromedical Evacuation, Trauma, Pediatric Cardiology, Pediatric Hematology Oncology, etc.
- Residents, Fellows, Attendings, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, Techs, etc.









Thank You!

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