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## Center project improves health care facilities for Fort Jackson basic trainees

**HUNTSVILLE Ala.--** Huntsville Center's Medical Repair and Renewal Program, a division under the Installation Support and Programs Management Directorate, recently closed out two projects at Fort Jackson, S.C. which were combined under one contract to save the Army \$3.5 Million.

Since Fort Jackson is the Army's main production center for Basic Combat Training, the projects will also have a direct impact on the future of the Army too.

Fifty percent of the Army's Basic Combat Training load and 60 percent of the women entering the Army each year pass through the gates of the 52,000-acre installation.

Of the more than 40,000 Soldiers receiving training at Fort Jackson, nearly all of them receive some care at the McWethy Troop Medical Clinic, built in 1986, and the Oliver Dental Clinic, built in 1969.

With high traffic comes high wear and tear and both facilities were in need of renovations which included floor plan designs streamlined to improve functional area efficiency to handle increased troop activity.

Since Huntsville Center's MRR specializes in providing fast-track, efficient methods for design and execution of all types of medical facility repairs, renovations and construction projects, its program and project management, engineering, contracting and construction support was sought to coordinate the TMC and ODC projects.

However, Huntsville Center's project manager here for the Fort Jackson projects, Rex McLaury, said final approved repair and renewal designs for both projects to meet U.S. Army Medical Command healthcare standards revealed the government and contractor both benefitted from the outcome due to the Firm Fixed Price contract, minimized risk, significant cost savings, economies of scale with improved management and control of schedule, sub-contracting performance and global market timing for material and equipment purchases.

The Oliver project for repair and renewal was awarded in September, 2008 for more than \$12 million with a completion date estimated at May 2010, yet due to customer changes and requests, the revised scheduled completion date was pushed to June 2010.

Prime-contractor JJ Kirlin, LLC, finished the projects on budget and with a May 2010 building occupancy date for the Oliver Clinic, the project finished one month earlier than expected. The TMC project was on schedule too with a ribbon cutting ceremony Oct. 4.

Once into construction, McLaury said both projects moved along very well with little to no major issues or interruption of services other than the customer's changes.

“Overall, with the complexities of these projects that required redesigns, multiple phases of construction, and coordination of activities to avoid interruption of medical service to Army recruits, the TMC and ODC projects were accomplished without significant problems,” McLaury said.

“The contractor did a fine job of advanced planning and follow-up without any surprises and finished ahead of the scheduled contract completion date and was well deserving of the ‘outstanding’ rating they were given.”-30-