EUSO Fact Sheet

The USO lifts the spirits of America's troops and their families through highly valued programs, moraleboosting services and engaging entertainment. From South Korea to Germany, from Okinawa to Afghanistan, at training bases and airports across the country and for those serving on ships and squadrons deployed around the world, we will continue to adapt to the needs of our troops and their families and provide the most valuable support as we say "thank you" on behalf of the American people. Here are a few examples of the ways through which we accomplish our spirit lifting mission:

- **Support and comfort** through USO Centers and programs such as Operation USO Care Package, Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families, and our *With You All the Way* partnership with the Comfort Crew for Military Kids;
- **Connect** our troops with their families through programs such as United Through Reading's Military Program and Operation Phone Home[®]; and
- Entertain through programs such as Entertainment Tours, USO2GO and Mobile Entertainment Gaming System.

USO focuses its support on those who need us most: wounded, ill and injured troops and their families and caregivers, families of the fallen, deployed troops, and military families, many of whom have endured numerous deployments. USO Warrior and Family Care is a comprehensive set of programs designed to support wounded, ill and injured troops, their caregivers and their families.

All of our programs and services are made possible by the individual donors, support of our corporate partners and the dedication of our volunteers and staff.

In October, the USO concluded the fourth annual Tell USO Survey designed to systematically measure and collect ideas and opinions of those we serve to help us improve the programs and services we provide around the globe. We achieved a record number of completions and results have shown improvement in overall troop satisfaction every year since 2009, the first year that the research study was conducted. Additionally the fourth annual survey results showed:

- Eight out of ten troops and families said the USO shows my country supports me;
- Nine out of ten troops and families said the USO Boosts my Morale; and
- More than 93% of troops and families agreed that the USO helps to ease my separation from family and friends.

USO CENTERS: The USO provides programs, entertainment and services at more than 160 USO locations worldwide, including Afghanistan, Kuwait, UAE, Germany, Italy, Japan, Guam, South Korea and the United States. In 2012, USO Centers were visited more than 8.8 million times by troops and their families. We provide a warm and comforting place where they can connect with family via Internet or telephone, play a video game, catch a movie, have a snack or just put their feet up and relax. Currently, the nine USO Centers in Afghanistan collectively average more than 170,000 visits monthly. In 2012, the USO celebrated the opening of second locations at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan and at Columbia Metropolitan Airport in South Carolina. New centers opened at Tampa International Airport, Fayetteville Airport in North Carolina, Fort Wayne Air National Guard Base in Indiana and Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport. Renovated and relocated centers opened at Travis Air Force Base, Palm Springs Airport, Shindand Air Base Afghanistan, Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport and Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan.

Deployed Troops

CHRISTMAS CONVOY: The USO helps the American public deliver the spirit of the holiday season with gifts delivered to troops stationed in some of the most remote outposts in Afghanistan. The USO continued this effort for the third year with the help of many generous sponsors – bringing boxes full of decorations, electronics, calling cards and personal care packages to thousands of troops stationed at more than 80 remote units in Afghanistan. CH-47 Chinook Helicopters were used to airlift gifts to some bases wheeled convoys could not reach.

USO VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers are the heart of the USO. They deliver goodness to our troops and their families in our centers and the community at locations around the world. In a recent survey, 80% of USO volunteers polled cited "interaction with troops and their families" as their greatest reward. In September, we announced the recipient of our annual USO Volunteer of the Year award, Army Sgt. Richard Schuh, who gave more than 200 hours of service to USO Kandahar while recovering from wounds suffered in theater. Last year, more than 24,000 USO volunteers across the globe gave more than 1.35 million hours in service of troops and families.

USO2GO: Designed to send much needed electronic gaming, sports/musical equipment, and personal care items to troops in remote locations, USO2GO was launched in 2008 to ensure those in the field have some of the small comforts of home. USO2GO deployed bundles, weighing nearly one ton each, have been delivered to more than 600 remote forward operating bases in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Philippines, Egypt, Djibouti and Kuwait. In 2012 the USO celebrated the shipment of our 1,000th USO2GO bundle; that's 2 million pounds of goodness sent directly to troops who need us most. USO2GO continues to be the most requested program directly from the field to support our deployed troops- we shipped 327 bundles in 2012.

MOBILE USO: USO centers on wheels, Mobiles offer troops the same kind of great support that USO provides in an airport or installation location. These large mobile centers travel to big events and military exercises to provide a place for men and women in uniform to relax during downtime, provide USO service to areas without a USO Center, and support our centers and the community in times of crisis. Each Mobile USO offers the troops laptops, large screen televisions, video game consoles, Wi-Fi access, casual seating, refrigerators, coffee makers and microwaves. Following the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, USO staff from USO Centers in North Carolina and Dover, Delaware, and the USO regional office in Norfolk, Virginia deployed vehicles to the Floyd Bennett Field tent city in Brooklyn, New York to support the troops assisting the hurricane recovery efforts. Two Mobile USO Convoy beginning on November 5. The Mobile USO provided onsite support including heat, video games, movies and free Wi-Fi to keep the troops connected to loved ones back home.

MEGS: Packaged in small, ruggedized containers, our Mobile Entertainment Gaming System (MEGS) provides entertainment options to troops in remote locations. Within minutes of opening a MEGS box, troops are watching a movie or playing a video game. A tent is quickly transformed into a movie theater or game room – allowing those in harm's way a chance to relax and recharge. This year the USO introduced a new MEGS Light -- a smaller, more compact version of the MEGS, ready for distribution to some of the most remote corners of the world.

OPERATION USO CARE PACKAGE: There is nothing like receiving a care package when deployed in a faraway place. And it's not just the benefit of the goodies that are in the USO care package that makes a difference. Even more significant is the connection to volunteers back home who committed their time and

energy to put the packages together. Since 2003, the USO has distributed more than 2.3 million care packages to troops around the world – giving the troops the comforts of home and sending a strong message of support from the citizens they serve. On 9/11, to honor those who sacrificed so much, 70 members of Congress gathered on Capitol Hill to assemble 2,000 care packages for troops serving overseas.

HOLIDAY BOX: The USO brings a touch of home to troops stationed overseas with the Holiday Box program. Over the winter holidays, the USO distributed more than 150 holiday boxes to bring a touch of home to troops with the spirit of the season and help them ring in the New Year. And just recently, troops reaching as far as Antarctica received our spring holiday box which included items to celebrate Super Bowl Sunday, Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day. Packages include decorations, snacks, DVDs and games.

PRO VS. GI JOE: In partnership with the nonprofit organization Pro vs. GI Joe, deployed troops compete against professional athletes in intense video game competitions. Family and friends of the participating service member are asked to join the professional athletes stateside to meet the pros, watch their loved ones compete, and talk with them via webcam. The impact of Pro vs. GI Joe events is felt on both sides-families have the opportunity to connect and troops are provided a break from life in a war zone. Several Pro vs. GI Joe events are scheduled throughout the 2013 NFL season.

ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITIES: The USO is probably best known for entertainment tours that bring celebrities and performers who donate their time and talents to visit our troops and families wherever they serve. On February 13, 2012 at a White House ceremony, President Barack Obama recognized the USO with the prestigious 2011 National Medal of Arts for our longstanding entertainment tradition. In 2012, the USO deployed 91 celebrity entertainers on 87 tours to 24 countries and 13 states, entertaining more than 324,000 troops and military families. Fifteen of these tours were to a combat zone. Entertainers who recently participated in morale boosting USO tours include the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders on their 75th USO Tour, Kellie Pickler on her 7th USO Tour, this time accompanying General Martin Dempsey, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on his 2nd USO Holiday Tour joined by members of the Washington Nationals and Washington Capitals, NASCAR's Joey Logano and Ricky Stenhouse Jr; the host of "Jeopardy!" Alex Trebek on his 13th USO Tour, authors Brad Meltzer and Michael Connelly, Olympic gold medalist Carly Patterson, members of the National Cartoonists Society, country music superstars Brad Paisley, Trace Adkins and Toby Keith on his 10th USO Tour, NFL coaches and players, Gary Sinise and cast members from TV shows "Spartacus," "Sons of Anarchy" and "The Big Bang Theory" among others.

Military Families

OPERATION PHONE HOME®: Operation Phone Home® is one of the most frequently requested services from our forward deployed troops. At our centers located in combat zones, the USO provides a private phone network for troops to make free phone calls home, access to computers with free high speed Internet bandwidth to connect online, with friends and family, as well as free wireless Internet access for troops with their own computers. More and more expectant take advantage of this free Internet access to virtually accompany their wives in the delivery room for the birth of their children. In Southwest Asia alone, more than 2.9 million calls were placed by deployed troops - that is more than 28 million minutes of free talk time to reconnect with their families. For those forward deployed troops who are serving in remote areas without access to our centers, the USO provides free international prepaid calling cards. To date, the USO has provided nearly 3 million free prepaid international calling cards, allowing troops stationed overseas to connect with their loved ones back home. In other places around the world, many USO Centers also offer free Internet and free phone calls.

WITH YOU ALL THE WAY: The *With You All the Way* program, a partnership between the USO, the Comfort Crew for Military Kids, and the Trevor Romain Company, supports children from age six to 18 as they tackle the difficult issues unique to growing up in a military family. The program reaches military children through performances on or near military installations, schools and through resources like DVDs, and kits distributed at USO Centers. Tour performances are led by Romain, who listens to what children are experiencing and helps them cope with deployment, and when a parent returns home "different," with the goal of teaching them positive ways to express themselves. In 2012 Trevor Romain and his crew embarked on a multi-city international *With You All the Way* tour with presentations to thousands of military children living throughout the Pacific and Europe. This year, Romain will deliver his messages of hope and support to military children in the U.S.

SESAME STREET/USO EXPERIENCE: *The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families* made its debut in July 2008, to help families deal with the challenges of deployment and homecomings. Since its inception, the tour has taken its message to more than 368,000 troops and military families and performed 631 shows on 145 military installations in 33 states and 11 countries. Additionally, the tour logged more than 122,000 miles and distributed more than 2 million giveaways. The tour kicked off its new eight-month adventure across the U.S. at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, in early April 2012. Its stateside return was complete with a colorful new tour bus, fresh new look and a brand new character named Katie – a military child experiencing the stresses of moving as her parents are transferred to a new duty station. The longest-running tour in USO history, this year's show visited 67 military installations and performed 204 shows. This year, the *Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families* will once again be hitting the road and touring the globe.... this time to 45 bases in eight countries.

UNITED THROUGH READING'S MILITARY PROGRAM: Last year, more than 43,000 recordings were mailed to military families worldwide. One of the most powerful things we can do is connect a deployed parent with their children back home. In 2006, the USO partnered with United Through Reading[®] to host its nationally recognized program at select USO Centers worldwide. Whether troops are stationed at a forward operating base in Afghanistan or deploying overseas, they can visit their participating USO Center to read a story aloud to their child. Mom or Dad's special story time is recorded on camera, and the USO mails this priceless DVD and book home. Children can watch and listen to their parent at bedtime, naptime or anytime. Families complete the circle by sending back a touch of home – a photo of the child watching their deployed Mom or Dad reading the book. In November the USO centers and hundreds of United Through Reading recordings shipped to families around the globe. View the *Read Around the World* event encompassing dozens of USO Centers and hundreds of united Through Reading recordings shipped to families around the globe. View the *Read Around the World* video at: <u>http://tinyurl.com/bmoqysj</u>.

PHOTO BOOK: Through a partnership with RocketLife, LLC, the Photo Book program gives loved ones a chance to connect with family and friends deployed overseas by creating and sending a free personal soft-cover photo album sized perfectly to fit in a uniform cargo pocket. The Photo Book program supports and comforts our troops by helping them stay connected with their families and supporters back home. Since the program began more than 9,000 photo books have been shipped to military families separated from their deployed loved ones. The connection these books offer is invaluable to both those who give and receive the book.

DR. BIDEN BOOK EVENT: On June 9, 2012, Dr. Jill Biden introduced her new children's book, "Don't Forget, God Bless Our Troops," to military families of the DC National Guard at a USO book reading. The book was inspired by Dr. Biden's granddaughter Natalie's personal experience with her father's

deployment, and offers coping mechanisms, ideas on how to stay connected through lengthy deployments and lets military kids know that they are not alone. Dr. Biden will donate all author proceeds to the USO in support of the future education of children of military families. Hosted by USO of Metropolitan Washington and the DC National Guard Armory, the book reading event also included arts and crafts stations and snacks. Each child who attended received a signed copy of the book.

'JOINING FORCES': On April 12, 2011, the USO joined First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden in the *Joining Forces* initiative to strengthen military families nationwide. The USO continues to support the initiative that focuses on three key issues facing military families – education, employment and wellness. In May, the USO and partner Full Circle Home were joined by Mrs. Obama, Dr. Biden and nearly 100 Congressional spouses for a Mother's Day service event at the Vice President's residence. This day of service entailed assembling hundreds of Mother's Day gift boxes filled with pampering products, gift cards, a charm bracelet, special Welcome Home seeds and - most important - a love note from their family member. These boxes were combined with others assembled at events across the nation and shipped in time to surprise the women on Mother's Day. The USO and Full Circle Home delivered the gifts on behalf of deployed troops who requested to have the special women in their lives recognized.

In April 2012, USO President Sloan Gibson joined judges Tom Brokaw, J.R. Martinez, San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro and Deanie Dempsey, wife of General Martin Dempsey, for *the Joining Forces* Community Challenge. Based on the judges' assessment of many candidate organizations, Mrs. Obama and Dr. Biden announced five- winners and "The People's Choice Winner" of the *Joining Forces* Community Challenge, in an effort to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary efforts of citizens and organizations across the country that are working to improve the lives of military families.

USO Warrior and Family Care[™] Healing with Honor

The USO is in a unique position to establish a first-class network of support for our wounded, ill and injured troops, their families and caregivers, as well as the families of the fallen. The USO developed a comprehensive long-term program, USO Warrior and Family Care, to support the continuum of care that helps provide wounded, ill and injured warriors with the hope and confidence to sustain their journey towards a full and rewarding life. We want to keep their families together and keep the families strong. We want these men and women to have a plan for the future with an active support network in place and give them the best chance to heal with honor.

Immediately following 9/11/2001 and the start of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, USO Centers around the world began to play a crucial role in the recovery and reintegration of our nation's healing heroes and their families, just as it has since its inception in 1941. Through local community support, celebrity visits, field trips, concerts, dinners, and other high impact events, USO staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to ensure that all who have served and sacrificed know just how much America appreciates their extraordinary sacrifice. USO Centers near major military medical facilities such as USO of Metropolitan Washington supporting the two major medical facilities in the nation's capital, USO Warrior Center supporting Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, and USO San Antonio supporting the Brooke Army Medical Center, focus on important programs and activities designed to combat stress and uncertainty of what the future may hold.

In April 2003, the USO embedded a USO Center in the heart of the Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility (CASF) at Ramstein Air Base, Germany to provide a comforting environment for wounded troops being staged there for transport to the United States following medical treatment at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC). Like the CASF USO, the USO Warrior Center that was built in 2008 at LRMC

serves the outpatients being treated there and also provides a place to relax for the wounded held at LRMC until they are cleared to return to their units in Afghanistan. More than 20 events per month at the Warrior Center help these healing troops get a touch of home. Both of these USO Centers are proud to maintain the mission resiliency of hard working medical personnel.

In military hospitals across Afghanistan, USO staff provide some of the most common but significant support to healing heroes in the most remote locations. Ranging from often overlooked items like coffee stirrers and magazines to immediate basic needs like clothing and bed sheets, the USO identifies and fulfills requests on a regular basis. The USO also distributes TVs, video gaming systems, and games to hospitals in Afghanistan. While gaming is a leisure activity, research shows that some video games make excellent therapy sessions and help our healing heroes regain cognitive function and focus. In addition, the USO provides puzzles and Lego figures for Traumatic Brain Injury clinics to assist in their healing therapy.

In some cases, military commands worldwide will call upon the USO to provide health and welfare support for their recovering wounded. By answering those requests with USO Warrior and Family Care Day Rooms, we fulfill that need. Generally, a USO Day Room provides connectivity, some options for entertainment and a place to simply take a break. USO Day Rooms create a USO presence when a USO facility is not an option. The USO supports more than 40 Day Rooms across the globe including many locations in theater.

USO's support of wounded, ill and injured troops, their families and caregivers encompasses many critical facets of life, including physical and recreational activities, behavioral health, family strengthening, education and employment transition, and community reintegration support. USO Warrior and Family Care partners with numerous best-in-class organizations to serve the needs of these troops and families.

Last year we launched a series of Public Service Announcements entitled "Portraits" designed to raise awareness for the impact of invisible wounds of war – Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). "Portraits" is a documentary-style PSA that features troops who proudly answered the call to duty in Iraq and Afghanistan, and who now live with invisible wounds. These stories and more can be viewed at <u>www.USOInvisibleWounds.org</u>.

USO WARRIOR AND FAMILY CENTERS: In 2012 the USO made significant progress in the construction of our two new USO Warrior and Family Centers. The USO Warrior and Family Center at Fort Belvoir opened on February 5, 2013. On November 7, 2012 we broke ground on our second USO Warrior and Family Center located at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. These centers will offer a comprehensive array of specialized services and programs in a supportive and home-like setting. The approximately 20,000 square-foot buildings will include movie theaters, classrooms, sports lounges, business centers, healing gardens and more, created expressly for wounded, ill or injured, troops their families and caregivers.

USO/HIRE HEROES USA TRANSITION WORKSHOPS AND CAREER OPPORTUNITY DAYS: The USO, in partnership with Hire Heroes USA, hosts transition workshops for wounded, ill and injured service members, their spouses, and caregivers. The workshops focus on resume writing, mock interviews with employers, professional work practices and translating prior military experience into a civilian career. USO Corporate Partners and local USO Advisory Board Members often participate on the second day of each workshop to conduct mock interviews in a casual and non-intimidating setting. As a follow up to the workshops the USO, in partnership with Hire Heroes USA and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, host Career

Opportunity Days for wounded, ill and injured troops, spouses and caregivers. These non-traditional career fair type events connect employers with participants based on interest and background. Employers conduct practice interviews and provide interviewing skills and feedback. Career Opportunity Days are limited to 10-15 employers and 40-60 wounded, ill and injured transitioning troops and veterans, as well as their spouses and caregivers, to ensure the size and magnitude of these events provide an environment conducive to one-on-one interaction and networking. In 2012, the USO hosted 22 workshops and 14 Career Opportunity Days expanding to new locations including Fort Bragg and Camp Lejeune in North Carolina as well as Fort Benning, Georgia.

USO CAREGIVERS CONFERENCES: Caregivers Conferences provide husbands, wives, parents, hospital staff and other caregivers supporting wounded, ill or injured troops practical advice and valuable information about available resources. Sessions address such topics as post-traumatic stress, caregiver boundaries and intimacy, compassion fatigue, parenting, childhood grief and caregiver resiliency. The next Caregivers Conference was February 25th at Camp Pendleton in collaboration with the US Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Battalion – West.

GAME ON NATION: The USO and game on Nation are working together to provide resiliency support for medical providers, caregivers and mortuary affairs staff that are often the silent heroes that assist our recovering service members and families of the fallen. Through the use of improvisation and laughter, game on Nation facilitates half-day trainings for various military units.

STRONGER FAMILIES OXYGEN SEMINARS: The USO/Oxygen program helps wounded, ill or injured couples strengthen their relationship - working on tough issues in a fun and nonthreatening environment. Couples learn to improve their communication, better understand each other's needs, resolve conflict, rekindle romance and find renewed hope.

PROJECT SANCTUARY: Active duty, veteran and wounded warrior families participate in six-day therapeutic retreat in the mountains of Colorado. The focus is always on supporting the family as a whole unit. The retreats utilize therapeutic recreation as a way to reconnect and reintegrate along with sessions in "healthy marriages" and "finance". Past retreat successes have strengthened the founding principles that healing takes time and requires the family to be together in an environment in which they feel comfortable. Activities include horseback riding, hiking, fishing, snow skiing, art and all sessions carry a therapeutic component tailored to each individual's physical and mental needs. In 2012, the USO provided 24 military families the opportunity to participate in Project Sanctuary Retreats. 11 retreats are scheduled for 2013.

CAMPS SUPPORTING MILITARY FAMILIES: Partnerships with best-in-class organizations like the National Military Family Association and the Armed Services YMCA, give the USO the opportunity to provide our nation's healing heroes and their families with the chance to reconnect, reintegrate and rejuvenate. Last summer nearly a dozen camps were hosted at locations across the country benefitting hundreds of wounded, ill and injured, their spouses, caregivers and children. In addition, in partnership with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, the USO hosted 10 camps for families of the fallen in 2012.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP BOOT CAMP FOR VETERANS: Starting a business is difficult and most new businesses don't survive past five years. With this new program the USO provides transitioning military the opportunity to explore entrepreneurship and ask the right questions before they launch their new business.

USO/ASPENPOINTE PEER NAVIGATOR PROGRAM: The USO works with AspenPointe, one of the largest nonprofits serving individuals and families. They focus on behavioral health issues, substance abuse, employment, career development, education, housing, jail diversion/reintegration, telephonic wellness and provider network services. The AspenPointe Peer Navigator Program seeks to serve all wounded, ill and injured troops looking for a smooth transition to civilian life. Through a peer support system with veteran mentors with similar experiences, the program works to help the integration process be less stressful and much smoother- providing that much needed "concierge" type service to these men and women as they to navigate the winding road of transition. The USO works to identify healing heroes and assists them and their families to connect with AspenPointe and community resources.

RENOVATINGHOPE: The USO recently launched a new program in partnership with the nonprofit organization RenovatingHope. Through this collaboration, the USO will support recently discharged wounded, ill and injured troops and their families by providing basic housing rehabilitation services. The troops are referred directly from military installation commands and are identified as having an immediate need, are physically unable to make the repairs themselves, and/or do not have sufficient income to hire qualified contractors to complete the work.

RIDE2RECOVERY: Whether it's climbing a steep mountain or racing across a flat road with their bicycle adapted to fit one leg, one arm or whatever their physical challenge might be, Ride 2 Recovery participants conquer their fears and prove they are a warrior even away from the battlefield. The USO partners with Ride 2 Recovery, providing adaptive bicycles and support for Project Hero- a cycling training group that prepares ride participants for their upcoming events. In addition, the USO Mobile will be onsite to provide lunch and support for seven rides in 2013.

WARRIOR GAMES: This May, the USO will proudly support the 4th annual Warrior Games held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. More than 200 wounded, ill and injured servicemen and women from all branches of military service will compete in Olympic-style events such as archery, cycling, wheelchair basketball, shooting, swimming, track & field and seated volleyball.

FAMILIES OF THE FALLEN: The USO has supported every dignified transfer at Dover Air Force Base since March 1991. USO Centers are located in the heart of Dover Air Force Base to support families of the fallen as well as inside the Air Force Mortuary Affairs complex to support the troops who are assigned there. Additionally, as family notifications occur at all times of the day and night, the USO works 24/7 to coordinate among USO Centers across the country to support and comfort families traveling to and from Dover, meeting the myriad needs of families who have just received tragic news. The USO also supports the families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice through our partnerships with organizations such as the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) and Fisher House, as well as the support received at various USO Centers across the United States. The USO and TAPS also provide Survivor Resource Kits to newly bereaved family members. Filled with comfort items, books of support, personal notes and information these kits provide a warm embrace in the form of a carefully crafted package. Each kit is carefully tailored to the specific family' s circumstance of loss, relationship to the deceased, cause of death and other family needs that are shared with us. For our nation's smallest heroes, the USO supports TAPS Good Grief Camps. The camps provide a safe atmosphere for children to connect with others coping with similar feelings, helping them to establish a support system. No matter what the hour or the need, the USO is there for the families of the fallen.

Providing the resources for USO programs and services

OPERATION ENDURING CARE: The USO launched Operation Enduring Care, a major fundraising effort, to support America's healing heroes and their families and our families of the fallen. This campaign is the USO's largest commitment in its history and will deliver the resources needed to support our healing heroes, their families and caregivers through their recovery process. The funds will be used to build two new, innovative Warrior and Family Centers, deliver vital programs and ensure that these facilities continue providing the critical support for our healing heroes, their families and caregivers.

USO WISHBOOK: Found at USO.org, USO Wishbook is a comprehensive catalog featuring virtual gifts that support troops and their families. Just in time for the 2012 holiday season, new gifts were added to the USO Wishbook that support our nation's wounded warriors and their families, including gifts "Flight Home Comfort Kit" and "Writing the Right Resume." Available throughout the year for gift giving for special occasions and holidays, USO Wishbook provides Americans a unique away to give a gift that gives twice – once to a friend or family member and then again to our brave men and women in the military. To date, more than 30,000 gifts have been purchased. The most popular gifts are "Phone Calls Home," "Comfort Food Package" "Deployment Kit" and "Long Distance Bedtime Stories."

USO meets all 20 Better Business Bureau Standards for Charity Accountability.

To learn more about the USO and how we serve our troops and their families, visit us at: uso.org Blog.uso.org Facebook.com/TheUSO Twitter.com/The_USO flickr.com/photos/theuso