

**ABOUT THE USO:** The USO (United Service Organizations) lifts the spirits of America’s troops and their families millions of times each year at hundreds of places worldwide. We provide a touch of home through centers at airports and military bases in the U.S. and abroad, top quality entertainment and innovative programs and services. We also provide critical support to those who need us most, including forward-deployed troops, military families, wounded, ill and injured warriors, their families and caregivers and the families of the fallen. The USO is a private, nonprofit organization, not a government agency. We rely on the generosity of our volunteers and donors.

**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, military family members told the USO that one the programs of greatest importance and highest use are our USO Centers worldwide. In fact, last year the USO delivered 1,861 family events to more than 425,000 military family members through our USO Centers.

In 2012, troops and their families visited USO Centers nearly 9 million times; approximately 1 million of those visits were made by military family members. Some of the families visit centers to participate in a wide range of events from special family-focused programming, events designed to help strengthen families as well as fun opportunities that build strong families.

**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 2012, more than 27,000 individuals volunteered for the USO, giving more than 1,350,000 hours of their time to further our mission of supporting troops and their families.

**ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITIES:** The USO is probably best known for entertainment tours that bring celebrities and performers who graciously donate their time to lift the spirits of our troops and their families around the world. On February 13, 2012, at a White House ceremony, President Barack Obama recognized the USO with the 2011 National Medal of Arts for its longstanding tradition of lifting the spirits of troops around the world through entertainment by iconic American artists. So far in 2013, the USO has deployed41 celebrity entertainers on 19 tours to 18 countries and 3 states, entertaining more than 42,000 troops and military families. Six of these tours were to a combat zone. Also in 2013, the USO has delivered 117 special entertainment events to include concerts, handshake tours, autograph signings, hospital visits and movie screenings.

**USO MILITARY FAMILY PROGRAMS:** Military families today are enduring the stresses of multiple deployments; coping with their loved ones’ visible and invisible wounds of wars, and struggling with the grief accompanying the loss of a family member. The USO’s broad reach and reputation attracts valuable resources and partner organizations to create a comprehensive array of programs and facilities with the scale to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our military families while sending a powerful message of gratitude from the American people.

**USO WARRIOR AND FAMILY CARE:** USO Warrior and Family Care offers a robust set of programs and support in 6 domains: Physical Health and Recreation Behavioral Health Support, Family Strengthening, Education, Employment and Community Reintegration that are especially meaningful and relevant to wounded, ill and injured troops, their families and caregivers, and families of the fallen. These programs will help our troops and their families; build hope and confidence; keep families together and strong; plan for the future; offer a support network that’s there when progress falters and; provide comfort and support for our families of the fallen.

**USO WARRIOR AND FAMILY CENTERS:** Supported by the funds raised through Operation Enduring Care, the USO’s campaign to support wounded, ill and injured warriors, their families and caregivers, the USO is building a community of healing around the military medical centers. Two new USO Warrior and Family Centers — one opened at Fort Belvoir, VA and one under construction at Bethesda, MD will provide additional programs, activities and events that support troops and their families during the recovery process. These centers will also offer a comprehensive array of specialized services and programs in a supportive and home-like setting including movie theaters, classrooms, sports lounges, business centers, healing gardens and more, created expressly for our nation’s healing heroes and their families.

**To learn more about the USO visit us at uso.org**