

Wounded Warriors



### **MOAA Warrior Family Roundtable**

### January 2011 Susan Thomas, Vice President, USO Wounded Warriors





USO Wounded Warriors....Helping build a Continuum of Care from Battlefield to Community.

# Warriors Keys to Successful Public/Private Partnerships

Communication: Open and ongoing

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 Coordination of Efforts is Essential: To minimize duplication and ensure best in class solutions that will maximize impact—no matter where they come from

★ Focus on End Goal: To help wounded, ill, and injured troops, their families, and caregivers make the connections they need to help with their ongoing recovery

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## Who Do We Serve

★ Wounded, III and Injured Troops, Their Families and Caregivers

★ Both Visible and Invisible Wounds



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Ways We Help

★ USO Warrior and Family Support Centers: Ft Belvoir (scheduled to open in December 2011) and the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda (scheduled to open in Spring 2012)

★ USO Wounded Warriors Programs and Partnerships: Building evaluation criteria for partnerships and through qualitative research identifying areas where collaboration with other nonprofits, military organizations, and government agencies can assist in extending the reach of much needed programs and services for wounded, ill, and injured troops, their families and caregivers

### \* Unique Events:

- ★ Warrior Games support
- \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Caregivers Conference in conjunction with Army One Source
- ★ US Chamber/USO Career Opportunity Days

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## **Feedback-Based Approach**

★ Develop partner network to build "bridges" that connect wounded warriors, their families, and caregivers to communities understanding that support does not end at medical retirement

★Want to define success in terms of outputs and outcomes, not simply inputs or activities



★ Want to have a clear performance measurement system incorporating feedback mechanisms

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## USO Wounded Warriors Programs and Partnerships

Recreation & Physical Health	Mental Health	Family Strengthening	Education	Employment	Community Reintegration
Rehabbing with the Troops	USO Day Rooms	NMFA Healing Adventures	Wounded Warrior Mentor Program	Hire Heroes USA	Hire Heroes USA
Ride 2 Recovery USO Outings	Moyer Foundation – Camp Erin	TAPS/Camp Erin	Colleges and Universities	US Chamber of Commerce	US Chamber of Commerce
Team River Runner	Operation Proper Exit	Caregivers Conference Trevor Romain	Caregivers Conference	Wounded Warrior Mentor Program	Other Local Mentor Programs
Warrior Games	TAPS	Camp Hero Kits	American Management Association	Military to Medicine	VFW

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### **Unique Events**

★ Warrior Games – Hosted First Games with USOC and DoD in May 2010, Next Event Scheduled for May 2011

★ Caregivers Conference – Hosted First Conference in September 2010 in Conjunction with USO EI Paso and Ft Bliss—over 200 participants. Next Conference Scheduled for September 2011 in Ft Bragg in conjunction with Army One Source

★ US Chamber of Commerce/USO Career Opportunity Days –Hosted First Conference at Walter Reed in June 2010 with USO of Metropolitan Washington, updating format to a smaller more intimate event to include matching of troops and spouses to employers for mock interviews. Ft Carson to kick off in March 2011

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# **QUESTIONS?**





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