



**Puget Sound Area**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Nate Murphy  
Phone: (206) 618-2790

**USO Puget Sound Area Receives \$50,000 Grant from Walmart Foundation**

*Walmart's generous support of USOPSA will help sustain USO centers at Sea-Tac Airport and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, providing 'all the comforts of home' to nearly half a million military personnel and their families each year*

**SEATTLE Dec. 29, 2010** – The USO Puget Sound Area (USOPSA) today announced a \$50,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation's Washington State Giving Program. The grant will help fund the continued operation of USO centers at Sea-Tac Airport and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, as well as events and community programs reaching nearly half a million military personnel and their families around the Puget Sound each year.

"Walmart remains a national corporate leader in their generous support of the USOPSA and our brave men and women in uniform," said Malcolm McLellan, USOPSA board chairman, and partner at Van Ness Feldman, P.C. "They recognize the sacrifices our military families make in service to this great country, and we are honored to accept this grant on behalf of the military personnel and families we serve."

As part of its ongoing support of our nation's military and veterans, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation recently launched a five-year, \$10 million commitment to the veteran community, placing a special emphasis on supporting job readiness and training of returning servicemen and servicewomen. This funding will allow Walmart and its Foundation to further support nonprofits that assist our veterans in their pursuit of higher education and enable them to more easily reintegrate into civilian life.

"Whether it's a hot meal, a bed to sleep in, or a welcoming conversation with a caring volunteer, the USOPSA provides all the comforts of home to our military and their families around the Puget Sound," said Don Leingang, USOPSA executive director and Commander USN (Ret.) "Without Walmart, the support of our other sponsors, and our volunteer 'army of gratitude,' this simply wouldn't be possible."

Other recent Walmart Foundation grant recipients include: Ryther Child Center, Lifelong AIDS Alliance, Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County, Cascade Valley Hospital Foundation, Emergency Food Network of Tacoma-Pierce County, Family Renewal Shelter, Free Clinic of SW Washington, JM Perry Institute of Trades Industries & Agriculture, Kitsap Regional Library Foundation, Literacy Council of Chelan and Douglas Counties, Lower Columbia Community Action Program, Northwest Harvest, Police Activities League of Vancouver Washington Association, Second Harvest, Senior Services of Snohomish County, Serenity House of Clallam County and Washington Apple Education Foundation.

Through its State Giving Program, the Walmart Foundation supports organizations with programs that align with their mission to create opportunities so people can live better. The State Giving Program awards grants starting at \$25,000 to nonprofit organizations that serve a particular state or region.

The Walmart Foundation's Washington State Giving Program is accepting grant applications from non-profit organizations across the state. Interested organizations may apply online at [www.walmartfoundation.org](http://www.walmartfoundation.org).

###

***About USO Puget Sound Area***

For nearly 45 years, the USO Puget Sound Area has provided 'all the comforts of home' to our brave military personnel and their families, via the USOPSA centers at Sea-Tac Airport and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, the USO Mobile Canteen, special events, and deployments and homecomings at military installations throughout the Puget Sound region. The USO Puget Sound Area is a private, non-profit organization, and a chartered center of USO Headquarters in Washington, D.C., not a government agency. We rely on the generosity of our volunteers and donors. We are also supported through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC-15348).

For more information on how to volunteer, or to make a tax-deductible donation to the USO Puget Sound Area, visit us online at: <http://www.usopsa.org>. Show your support for our military and follow the USOPSA on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/USOPSA>) and Twitter (<http://www.twitter.com/USOPSA>).

***About Philanthropy at Walmart***

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are proud to support the charitable causes that are important to customers and associates in their own neighborhoods. The Walmart Foundation funds initiatives focused on education, workforce development, economic opportunity, environmental sustainability, and health and wellness. From Feb. 1, 2009 through Jan. 31, 2010, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation gave more than \$467 million in cash and in-kind gifts, including donating 127 million pounds of nutritious food to U.S. food banks. Internationally, Walmart gave \$45 million in cash and in-kind gifts to charitable organizations. To learn more, visit [www.walmartfoundation.org](http://www.walmartfoundation.org).