

Contact: Becca Holton

770-656-6246

bholton@bravepublicrelations.com

Kellie Rehn 404-233-3993

krehn@bravepublicrelations.com

## Belgard Celebrates Military Family Appreciation Month with \$100,000 Donation to the USO

"Welcome Home" giving initiative to support transition programs for troops

**ATLANTA, November 24, 2015** – <u>Belgard®</u>, the go-to for outdoor living, featuring products for patios, outdoor kitchens, living rooms, driveways and other outdoor living elements, announced today that the company has raised \$100,000 as part of its <u>Welcome Home</u> giving initiative for the <u>USO</u>, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting, connecting and comforting American service members and their families throughout every step of their military journey.

"We knew we had lofty goals in trying to raise this amount by Veterans Day, but we were confident our employees, customers and stakeholders shared our commitment to honoring the servicemen and women of this country," said Erica Breazeale, consumer marketing manager for Belgard. "We are honored to have a partnership with such a significant organization and look forward to continuing to work with the USO to express our gratitude for those who have given so much for our nation."

Belgard partnered with the USO for Welcome Home, a giving initiative to support transitioning troop programs at the USO, in March of this year with the ultimate goal of raising \$100,000 by Veterans Day. Over the past eight months, Belgard has made individual donations in amounts ranging from \$100 to \$500 for every paver project installed during this time and other trade partner actions. These funds will support USO programs focused on supporting service members as they transition from military to civilian life. These programs provide services raging from helping troops create a strong resume to networking with employers to creating a more functional home environment.

"When service members and military families embark on transitioning into civilian life, it is important they know that America supports them," said Michael Hoar, USO vice president of corporate alliances. "Partners like Belgard, help the USO provide our nation's military community with the resources they need to successfully reintegrate into civilian life."

To celebrate Welcome Home's success, Belgard held a check presentation ceremony at Fort Carson, an army base in Colorado Springs, on Nov. 21. The company, along with local partners <a href="Sunflower Landscapes">Sunflower Landscapes</a> and <a href="DBC Irrigation">DBC Irrigation</a>, donated and installed a fire pit in the USO Colorado

Springs at Fort Carson outdoor common space for service members to enjoy a touch of home with their loved ones.

For more information, visit www.belgard.com/home.

## About Belgard®

Belgard, part of Oldcastle® Architectural, offers a complete collection of paver and wall products for outdoor living spaces, walkways, driveways, parking areas and retaining walls. Available in a range of styles, premium Belgard products have been found in America's finest homes and award-winning commercial and retail properties since 1995. For more information or a complimentary Idea Book, visit <a href="Belgard.com">Belgard.com</a> or call 1-877-Belgard (235-4273). Find more inspiring outdoor space ideas at <a href="Facebook.com/BelgardHardscapes">Facebook.com/BelgardHardscapes</a>.

## **About the USO**

The USO strengthens America's military service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country, throughout their service to the nation. At hundreds of locations worldwide, we are united in our commitment to connect our service members and their families through countless acts of caring, comfort, and support. The USO is a private, non-profit organization, not a government agency. Our programs, services and entertainment tours are made possible by the American people, support of our corporate partners and the dedication of our volunteers and staff.

In addition to individual donors and corporate sponsors, the USO is supported by President's Circle Partners: AT&T, the BNSF Railway Foundation, Clark Construction Group, LLC, The Coca-Cola Company, Johnson & Johnson, Kroger, NFL and Four-Star Partners: BIC, ConAgra Foods, FedEx, GEICO, JCPenney, Lockheed Martin, Microsoft, Procter & Gamble, Starbucks, TKS and the Wawa Foundation. We are also supported through the United Way and Combined Federal Campaign (CFC-11381). To join us in this important mission, and to learn more about the USO, please visit uso.org.

###