



of Metropolitan Washington



Elaine B. Rogers
President

Graduating from Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1974, Ms. Rogers embarked upon a lifelong career in social services. Starting as a Red Cross volunteer at Indiantown Gap, PA where she later became the Operations Director for that Vietnamese and Cambodian refugee relocation camp. Joining the Department of Social Services in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1975, she initiated innovative recreational programs for the elderly and infirmed residents in public housing. Beginning work at USO-Metro in 1976, she quickly proved herself and became President in 1977. In the nearly three decades since, under Ms. Roger's leadership, USO-Metro is the model for a charity changing with the times.

USO-Metro today one is the largest USO affiliates in the world. At nine locations in the greater metropolitan Washington DC and Baltimore area, USO-Metro provides vital human services to the military and their families -- especially for the junior enlisted military with the greatest economic needs. The programs and services Ms. Rogers has implemented during her tenure are numerous and varied efficiently matching limited resources to unmet needs. These include:

- Emergency Housing -- provides free temporary housing to military families in severe financial or medical crisis.
- Family Outreach Centers -- offers programs, services, and recreation geared to young enlisted families at four area military installations and military housing areas.
- Food Assistance -- provides grocery gift certificates to thousands of military personnel in financial straits.
- Holiday Programs -- provides a free call home, a free hotel room, and tree lighting celebrations.
- Ticket Line -- provides free or greatly discounted tickets to sporting and entertainment events.
- Quarterly Job Fairs, -- assists military who are leaving military life to transition into the civilian and government sector.
- "Safe-T-First" -- distributes car seats to the parents of infants.
- *USO Guide to Washington and Baltimore* -- published annually, provides an extensive resource for service members who are new to the area.
- USO International Gateway Lounge at BWI Airport -- a 5,000 square foot facility, offering the nearly 500,000 military travelers a year a TV Lounge, nursery, internet room, and full service snack bar. A smaller lounge serves National Airport.



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- Military Hospital Services -- as the war on terror continues, USO-Metro has worked closely with Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center at Bethesda to provide programs and services to the patients. This includes emergency housing, phone cards, taxi vouchers, food assistance to wounded service members and their families, excursions outside the hospitals to activities such as local sporting events and concerts, and concerts and events on hospital grounds as well as celebrity handshake tours to boost the morale of patients. Celebrities such as Tom Hanks, Cher, Adam Sandler, and Billy Joel have recently visited wounded troops through USO-Metro.
- Operation USO Care Package – a worldwide program operated by USO-Metro for its parent organization, over half a million USO Care Packages have been distributed to deployed and deploying troops who are fighting the war on terrorism. In the fall of 2002, Ms. Rogers launched the Operation USO Care Package program worldwide. This program enables individuals to express their support for men and women serving overseas by sponsoring a USO Care Package. This worldwide program has been endorsed by numerous celebrities, to include President and Mrs. Bush.

Funded solely by private and corporate donations, Ms. Rogers has tirelessly worked since 1977 to swell the volunteer roster from 50 to over 1,500 and to grow annual donations to keep pace with needed programs and service -- from \$100,000 to over \$11,000,000 a year in cash, goods and services. Under Ms. Rogers' leadership, USO-Metro limits spending such that 93 cents out of every donated dollar goes to programs and services.

In recognition of her passionate dedication to members of the U.S. Armed Forces and her leadership in providing crucial USO programs and services, Ms. Rogers has received many citations and certificates from the Department of Defense and area military commands.

These include:

1975	Outstanding Woman of the Year	Jaycees, PA
1979	Patriotic Civilian Service Award	Department of the Army
1982	Service to Mankind Award	Sertoma Club, Alexandria, VA
1983	Outstanding Civilian Service Medal	Secretary of the Army
1984	Meritorious Public Service Citation	Secretary of the Navy
1992	Outstanding Civilian Award	Association of the U.S. Army
1995	Dickey Chapelle Award	Marine Corps League
1996	Outstanding Civilian Service Medal	Secretary of Defense
1998	Exceptional Service Award	United States Air Force
2003	Mary Walker Award	Military District of Washington
2005	Lifetime of Dedication Award	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

Ms. Rogers is a native of Harrisburg, PA, and currently resides in Arlington, VA.