



PRESS STATEMENT FOR RELEASE 14.01.11

## **FUNDRAISERS TAKE TO THE SKIES FOR LOCAL CHARITY**

Daredevils are being encouraged to sign up to take part in a sponsored skydive to raise desperately needed funds for the Bury St Edmunds based drug and alcohol rehabilitation charity, Focus12. The charity faces an uncertain future following the withdrawal of government funding from March this year.

The tandem skydive will take place on Saturday May 21st 2010 in Beccles, and jumpers will need to raise a minimum of £300 each in sponsorship. There are 17 confirmed jumpers so far, most of whom responded to pleas published on social networking sites Facebook and Twitter by the event organiser, Sarah Stamp.

Those signed up to take part so far include Focus12 receptionist Claire Walton, actors James Doherty, Chris Clarkson and Oliver Jackson, and King Edward VI sixth former 18 year old Ashlea Smith, daughter of Bury hypnotherapist Sue Smith, who overcame her own fear of flying to take part in a skydive for Focus12 in November last year.

Ashlea said: "Seeing how brave my Mum was, and being so proud of her for helping to raise so much money for Focus12 made me want to jump this time – I can't wait!"

Sarah Stamp, event organiser said: "We held a similar event last November which was a great success - 13 people took part and raised nearly £3,000 for Focus12. The jumpers all had a ball, and I had several people ask me when the next one was, so I decided to plan this jump for the spring. I've been really pleased with the response so far, but I would really like to get to 20 jumpers if possible."

Anyone who would like to find out more, or would be interested in either jumping themselves or sponsoring those who are taking part, can email [sarah@sarahstamp.co.uk](mailto:sarah@sarahstamp.co.uk) or call her on 07584 028671.

**\*\* END \*\***

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For further information or photographs please contact Sarah Stamp on 07584 028671 or [sarahstamp@focus12.co.uk](mailto:sarahstamp@focus12.co.uk)

#### **NOTES TO EDITOR**

*The photograph attached is of actor James Doherty, who will be taking part in the jump.*

*Focus12 is a drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre, and was established in 1997 by Chief Executive, Chip Somers.*

*It offers both daycare and residential facilities and is able to offer a full range of treatments, from individual therapy to an intensive 12 week detox programme.*

*It counts celebrity patrons Russell Brand and Davina McCall amongst its supporters.*

*If you would like an interview with or photograph of any of the jumpers, please email [sarah@sarahstamp.co.uk](mailto:sarah@sarahstamp.co.uk)*