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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local charity in exciting shopping venture

Volunteers from Children's Charity SAFE@LAST are embarking on an exciting one off venture to raise funds and awareness to support children and young people at risk through running away.

For just three days at the beginning of September the team of volunteers are hoping to follow in the footsteps of Mary Portas with her hugely successful charity shops. In Mary, 'Queen Of Charity Shops', a three-part series broadcast on the BBC, Mary successfully took on charity shop brands in order to transform them into must-stop-shops on the high street. Raising awareness for the charities but also increasing the shops profits.

Following Mary's example SAFE@LAST Volunteers will be running a charity clothing agency, 'Charity Chicks' in Dinnington from Friday 4th to Sunday 6th September. The shop will sell fantastic, good quality items of men's, women's and children's clothes and accessories that have kindly been donated by SAFE@LAST's supporters.

Jacque Hawkins, one of the volunteers involved in the project said "We are very excited about 'Charity Chicks'. many of our very glamorous and elegant supporters have once again given a phenomenal response to our requests for donations with many high quality and designer clothes and accessories being donated. 'Charity Chicks' will demonstrate what fantastic items can be found in a charity shop while your shopping supports such a good cause. This is a unique event for SAFE@LAST as the charity does not have any traditional charity shops so we hope lots of people will come while they have the chance and have a look through our rails and find their dream item."

The premises on Laughton Road, Dinnington that will be transformed in to 'Charity Chicks' have been kindly provided free of charge by Yorkshire Windows; Hazel Yarlett from Yorkshire Windows is also a regular volunteer and fundraiser for the charity. SAFE@LAST Founder Trustee, Hilary Massarella said "We are very grateful to Yorkshire Windows for allowing us to use their premises and we simply would not be able to do this without their

support. Yorkshire Windows have been long standing and loyal supporters of SAFE@LAST and our work with vulnerable children. The support of such an established and respected company like Yorkshire Windows is worth so much to a small charity like SAFE@LAST. Supporters can find directions to the shop and details of the opening times at www.safeatlast.org.uk – we look forward to seeing everyone there in September.”

All profits raised from the shop will go to SAFE@LAST which works with vulnerable young people from South Yorkshire, North Nottinghamshire and North East Derbyshire who are at risk through running away. SAFE@LAST provides services for the 1 in 9 children in South Yorkshire who run away from home or care. SAFE@LAST provides preventative work, a 24 hour helpline (0800 335 SAFE), a MISPER (Missing Persons) Scheme and an emergency refuge for young people who are 16 and under.

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For further information

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Note to editors

- SAFE@LAST is a registered charity working with young people who have run away from, or have been thrown out of, the place where they usually live.
- Young People that need help can contact SAFE@LAST on their 24hour helpline by calling 0800 335 SAFE.
- For more information about SAFE@LAST, the services it offers and how you can help visit www.safeatlast.org.uk. Young people wishing to contact SAFE@LAST can call on their 24hour confidential helpline on 0800 335 SAFE.