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For immediate release

Leading conflict resolution charity graduates from Impetus investment portfolio after turbo-charged growth

- *Leap* reaches two and a half times more young people following Impetus investment
- *Leap's* revenue has nearly quadrupled

LONDON – Impetus, the architects of venture philanthropy in the UK, announced today that a leading national conflict resolution charity, Leap Confronting Conflict, is graduating from its investment portfolio, having successfully multiplied its impact many-fold.

Leap, which was named Overall Winner at the Charity Awards 2009, builds the skills of young people to prevent violence and better manage conflict in their lives, schools and communities. Programmes include working with gangs, reducing knife crime and conflict resolution training for adults. Last year, *Leap* directly reached over 5,500 young people.

Impetus's four-year investment of £535,000 and premium expertise valued at £347,000 has transformed *Leap*. Its revenue has nearly quadrupled and it reaches two and a half times as many young people. It has opened the Leap Academy of Youth and Conflict, the country's first ever specialist academy to provide youth and conflict qualifications all the way up to foundation degree. The importance of its work has been recognised by the government, with *Leap* winning a £3.2m grant from Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) to expand its services.

Impetus chief executive Daniela Barone Soares says, "*Leap* provides a much-needed solution to the conflict that many vulnerable young people face in their lives. After four years of Impetus capacity-building support, *Leap* is now equipped to help raise the aspirations of even more young people, and so help break the cycle of poverty."

Leap Chief Executive Jenny Rogers comments, "The support provided by Impetus has been crucial for *Leap's* growth, enabling us to establish a national presence, reach greater numbers of young people and become more sustainable."

Impetus, which began its work with *Leap* in 2005, currently invests in 13 charities. It looks for charities that are tackling root causes of poverty and helping to improve levels of education, skills and

employability. The ultimate aim is to enable ambitious and innovative charities with strong growth potential to have a far greater impact on the lives of economically disadvantaged people. More on www.impetus.org.uk.

Notes for Editors:

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Impetus Trust (www.impetus.org.uk) strives to make the biggest difference with donors' money by helping the charities and social enterprises it supports to achieve a transformational change in their performance. The ultimate goal is to enable these charities to have a greater impact on the lives of economically disadvantaged people. Through its financial support and deployment of high calibre experts and co-investment partners, Impetus has helped its portfolio charities grow their income by an average of 29% per year and increase the number of people they help by 53% per year. Since actively focusing on this leveraged approach, Impetus has been able to generate an additional £5 of funding for its charities, for every £1 it invests.

Leap Confronting Conflict (www.leapconfrontingconflict.org.uk) has a track record of 21 years development of innovative youth programmes that work with young people and youth practitioners to prevent and manage violence and transform challenging and anti-social behaviour. *Leap* has the explicit vision that conflict resolution skills and understanding should be located within all informal and formal programmes for young people in the UK.