

Boston Bruins PJ Drive Fun Facts

Bruins forward P.J. Axelsson and his wife, Siw, **started the PJ Drive during the Boston Bruins 2007-2008 season** as a way to give back to their community. The couple collected 1,600 pairs of pajamas for Cradles to Crayons, which connects with social service agencies to identify specific children in need.

- Since 2014, libraries have collected 41,244 pairs of pajamas and more than \$12,000 in donations for kids in need.

- In 2014, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (which partners with the Bruins for statewide summer reading) joined the drive and recruited libraries to participate. Libraries from around the state used the Massachusetts Library System's delivery service, typically used to send books and other library materials, to send their PJs to area collection locations, which increased libraries' ability to participate in the drive.

- The goal of this year's drive is to collect 13,000 pairs of pajamas, with libraries collecting 10,000 of the total. The public can get involved by bringing new pajamas to a local library and donating them to the drive, which runs from February 1 to March 15.

- In 2017, the Boston Bruins and the Massachusetts Board of Commissioners approached DCF KIDS (now Wonderfund) as an organization that, in addition to Cradles to Crayons, would receive the pajamas for kids in need. DCF estimates that at any given time the agency is working with 50,000 babies, children and teens.

- First Lady of the Commonwealth Mrs. Lauren Baker is a Wonderfund board member and has supported the Boston Bruins PJ Drive through visits to public libraries across the Commonwealth.

- With the addition of DCF, participating libraries grew from 69 to 140 because many of the pajamas go to local DCF offices, and having PJs stay local was important to the libraries.



**FUN
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