

Pajama donation offers comfort to CYF youth

In excess of 800 new pajamas were donated to the DHS Office of Children, Youth and Families (CYF), thanks to the generosity of Forest Grove Elementary students, parents and faculty.

The pajamas – ranging in sizes from newborn to adult – were collected by the school’s Parent-Teacher Association as part of the Pajama Program, a national initiative designed to offer “warmth, routine and a simple pleasure all kids deserve to have” for youth who are experiencing poverty or living in group homes, foster care or shelters.

“This is our fourth year participating in the program, and we’ve seen the number of donated pajamas increase year after year,” said Lauren Zeller, Forest Grove kindergarten teacher. “In addition to the tangible benefit of providing comfort to the pajama recipients, we have found that the Pajama Program has been a learning experience for our students, allowing them to practice the art of philanthropy to benefit other children. We are blessed to have the opportunity to improve bedtime for hundreds of local children and to raise awareness in our community around this need.”

Amanda Greenlund, Pittsburgh chapter president of the Pajama Program added, “Forest Grove Elementary’s drive was so successful, and I knew we could reach many kids through DHS. I am thrilled DHS could take such a large donation and make an immediate impact on local youth.”