

Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 2:52pm EST

## **Staples teams with Cradles to Crayons to donate \$200k in supplies**

Boston Business Journal - by [Mary Moore](#)

More than 500 **Staples** employees gathered Wednesday at the Westin Boston Waterfront hotel to pack 20,000 backpacks alongside staff and volunteers from Cradles to Crayons, a nonprofit that provides school supplies and related materials to poor and homeless families.

The Staples employees, in town for a global supply chain meeting, represented countries from Australia and Europe to South America. Staples donated more than \$200,000 in supplies to fill the backpacks, from calculators and rulers, to notebooks and the backpacks themselves.

Staples has been a partner with Cradle for Crayons for three years.

Cradles to Crayons will distribute the backpacks, first to **Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston**, and then, closer to the start of the school year, to school systems and other nonprofit organizations that work with children.

Wednesday's effort dovetailed with Cradles to Crayons' annual back-to-school initiative on Boston's City Hall Plaza, where staff and volunteers fill backpacks for students returning to school.