

— Emeril's —
CULINARY GARDEN &
TEACHING KITCHEN

2025 PROGRAM UPDATE

Where Confident Kids Grow

A program of



Emeril Lagasse Foundation

A YEAR OF IMPACT

In 2025, Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen continued to grow in reach, engaging students nationwide in hands-on food, nutrition, and gardening education. Meaningful strides in program *growth, evaluation, and impact* underscored our mission to create opportunities to inspire, mentor and enable youth to reach their full potential.



INCREASING OUR IMPACT

4,540

STUDENTS ENGAGED IN 7
FLAGSHIP PARTNER SCHOOLS

7,000+

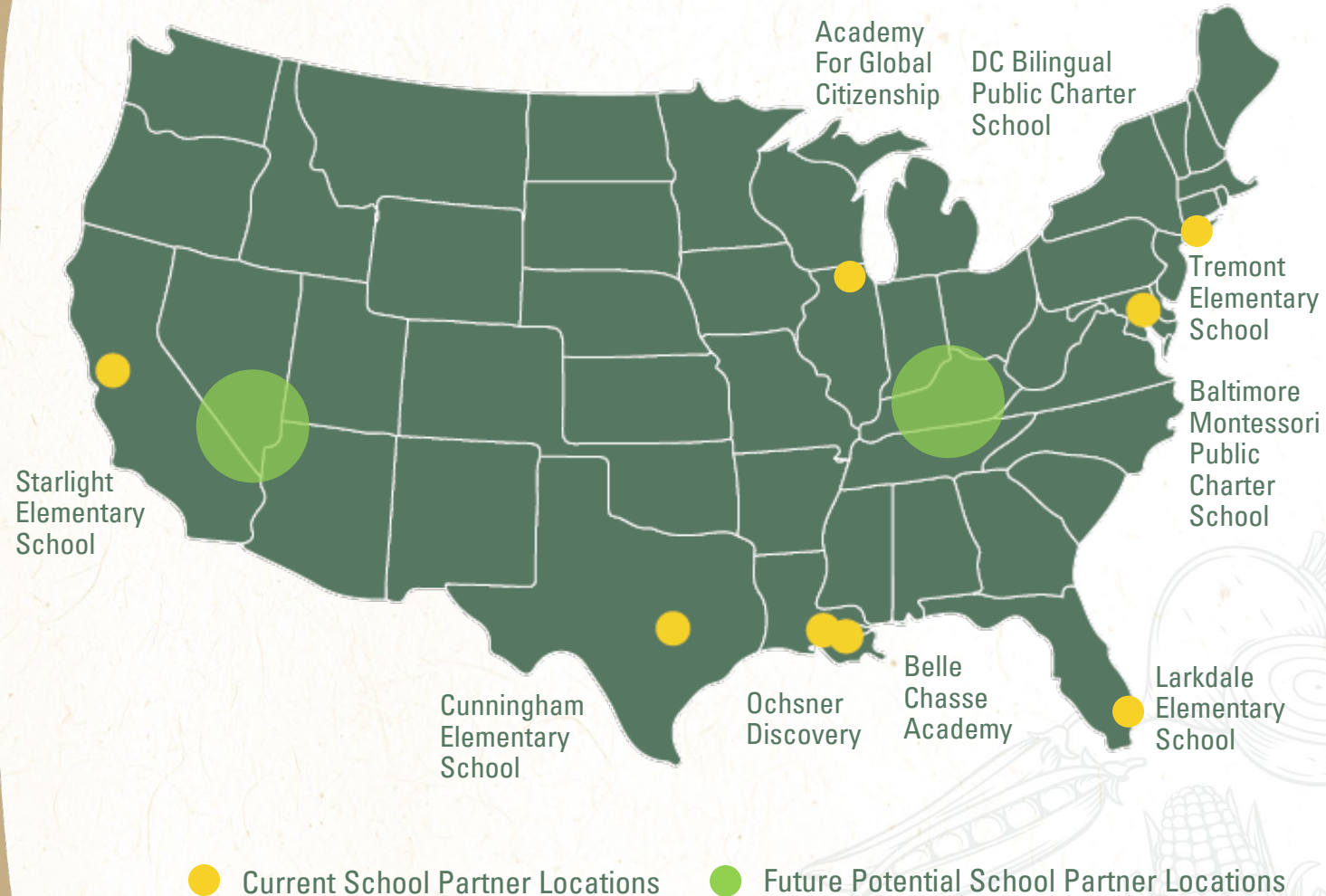
PARENTS, TEACHERS
& FAMILY MEMBERS
IMPACTED

216

COMMUNITY
EVENTS

6,480

CULINARY, GARDENING &
NUTRITION LESSONS TAUGHT



ENHANCING STUDENTS' LIVES

As we continue expanding into new schools, our program participation naturally grows over time. New schools begin with select grade levels and gradually scale up, ensuring thoughtful and sustainable implementation. Reported percentages reflect this intentional growth, demonstrating our commitment to long-term impact and success.

90%

of students enrolled at our
signature program sites

RECEIVED NUTRITION
EDUCATION LESSONS.

90%

of students enrolled at our
signature program sites

RECEIVED COOKING
EDUCATION LESSONS.

89%

of students enrolled at our
signature program sites

RECEIVED GARDEN-BASED
EDUCATION LESSONS.

71%

of core academic teachers
at our program sites

INCORPORATE THE GARDEN
INTO THEIR CLASSROOM

instruction on a regular basis,
outside of dedicated
gardening classes.

REAL WORLD LEARNING



Starlight Elementary School
(Watsonville, CA)



Dr. John Ochsner Discovery
Health Sciences Academy
(New Orleans, LA)



Cunningham Elementary School
(Austin, TX)

WATSONVILLE, CA

Students at Starlight Elementary School learned about native history through the development of the school's Plantas Abuelas Garden (native plant demonstration garden). They see themselves and their lineages when learning this history.

AUSTIN, TX

Cunningham Elementary School's 5th graders prepared and hosted a luncheon for district leaders and trustees, PTA members, and local service industry leaders.

GREATER NEW ORLEANS, LA

Students at DJOD and BCA were the first to pilot our Bam! Box Initiative. These take-home hydroponic kits were designed to bring the learning home—giving families the tools to grow fresh food, cook together, explore seasonal ingredients, and carry those garden-grown lessons into their daily lives.



DMV (DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, MARYLAND & VIRGINIA)

Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen students from Baltimore Montessori and D.C. Bilingual public charter schools returned to the National Mall of Pickleball in September. Their live cooking demos showcased how culinary education builds confidence, promotes wellness, and fuels future success for young people.

CHICAGO, IL

Academy for Global Citizenship recently celebrated their first harvest of food from their farm and stocked their market and community fridge with the yields. The market allows community members to access healthy grab-and-go meals and groceries, while the community fridge provides food for community members for free, no questions asked.

BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE



Baltimore Montessori Public
Charter School
(Baltimore, MD) &
DC Bilingual Public Charter
School (Washington, D.C.)



Academy for Global Citizenship
(Chicago, IL)

STRENGTHENING EDUCATORS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Dr. John Ochsner Discovery Health
Sciences Academy
(New Orleans, LA)



Academy for Global Citizenship
(Chicago, IL)

INVESTING IN EDUCATORS

- Training for 70 teachers at three partner schools
- Professional development focused on best practices for integrating cooking and gardening concepts across core academic subjects
- Surveys to assess impact

ENGAGING FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

- 216 family & community events in 2024-2025 school year
- Parents, teachers, and students overwhelmingly report high satisfaction
- Improvement in life skills such as self discipline, diligence, and teamwork was observed by parents and teachers

WELCOMING NEW SCHOOL PARTNERS IN 2026



TREMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

In 2026, we welcomed Tremont Elementary, of Patchogue-Medford School District, in Medford, NY, as our eighth school partner. The school serves 470 youth in grades K-5.

LARKDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

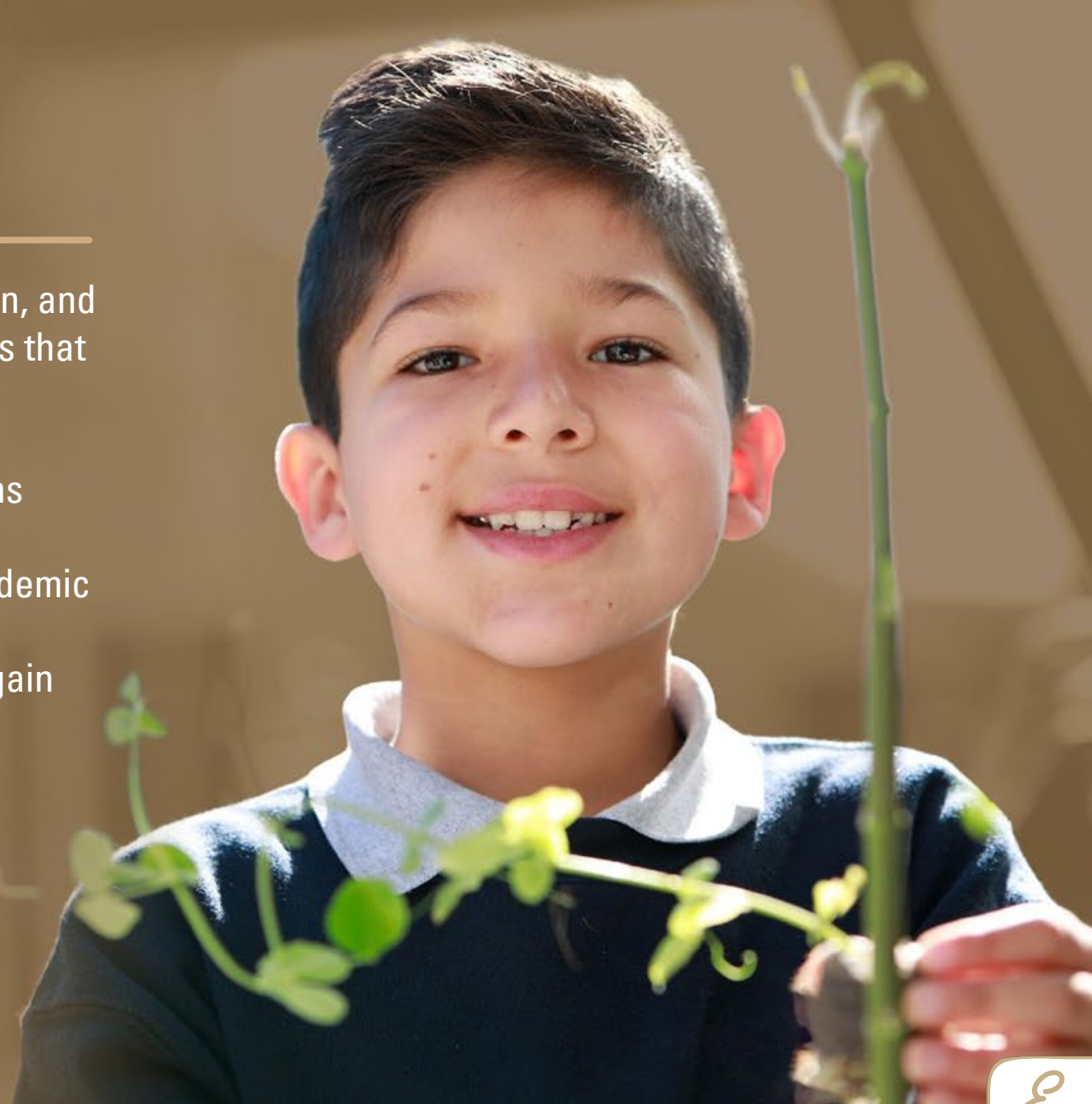
In 2026, we also welcomed Larkdale Elementary School, of Broward County Public Schools, in Fort Lauderdale, FL as our ninth school partner. The school serves 424 youth in grades K-5.

THE NEED IS GREAT

Your support helps bridge the gap between poverty, education, and health, providing children with hands-on learning experiences that foster lifelong skills.

- **Healthy Habits Start Here** – Cooking and gardening lessons empower kids to make nutritious choices
- **Beyond the Classroom** – Hands-on learning improves academic engagement and real-world skills
- **Breaking Barriers** – Your support ensures more children gain access to quality food education.

Together we are shaping a healthier future — every child deserves the opportunity to thrive!



The logo is a white, rounded rectangular tag with a brown border and a small hole on the left side, resembling a wooden tag. It is centered on a dark green background with faint, stylized line drawings of various vegetables like carrots, onions, and corn. The text inside the tag is as follows:

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*"Alden and I wanted to reach and impact kids in a positive manner,
and we knew the best way to do that was through food."*

- Chef Emeril

You are invited to learn more at emeril.org