



Emeril Lagasse Foundation

TOGETHER TOWARD

2024-2027

▶ EXTRAORDINARY





Dear friends,

Throughout our lives and careers, Alden and I have seen firsthand how obstacles can shape, and sometimes limit, a young person's potential. Whether it's lack of access to quality education, nutritious meals or the support of a positive role model, these barriers are all too familiar in under-resourced communities. We've also witnessed the incredible transformation that happens when we come together to break down these barriers.

The mission of Emeril Lagasse Foundation is to create opportunities to inspire, mentor and enable youth to reach their full potential. Through our innovative programs and education initiatives, we are dedicated to opening doors for young people, giving them the tools and support they need to lead healthy, independent and fulfilling lives.

Together, we are on the verge of something extraordinary. With your help, we aim to impact 250,000 youth by 2027, empowering them to overcome obstacles and achieve greatness. Your support will bring our vision to life, and we are grateful to have you by our side on this journey.

Thank you for being part of such meaningful work.

Sincerely,
EMERIL AND ALDEN

THE MISSION

Emeril Lagasse Foundation creates opportunities to inspire, mentor and enable youth to reach their full potential.



THE GOAL

With the strategic vision to raise \$33 million by 2027, our comprehensive campaign is a testament to our commitment to nurturing future generations.



\$33M BY 2027

"My passion for this organization fuels me every day. Every single child who is inspired, mentored or educated contributes to the profound impact we are creating. We understand the deeply interconnected barriers that stand between young people and their dreams. With your support, we can provide the guidance, resources and opportunities that children need to overcome adversity, pursue their passions and achieve their goals."



Your gift leverages impact.

BRIAN KISH
PRESIDENT

INSPIRE • MENTOR • ENABLE



Our mission extends beyond words on a page; it is realized through the lives of the children we serve and the communities we impact. Over time, our foundation has consistently upheld its mission while embracing growth, adaptability, and a renewed sense of purpose. Currently, we serve over 35,000 children annually and are actively expanding our efforts to reach even more members of the community.

ANNUAL IMPACT ▼



10,366

elementary students gain access to gardening and cooking education through Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen.



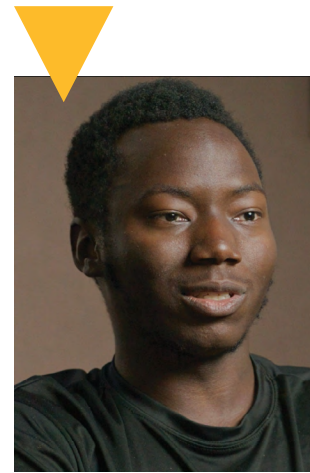
120,000

meals and snacks are served to food-insecure children.



\$1 million

invested in communities nationwide to support young people in culinary, nutrition and arts education, life skills development, and basic childhood needs.



"I feel like I would wake up and I wanted something different. Coming to Covenant House has helped put me on the right path and I feel confident I can stick to it. (After graduating) I see myself as a heart surgeon. I've always been fascinated by how to save a life and what I can do to make life better on those who have it rough right now."

SINCERE
COVENANT HOUSE NEW ORLEANS RESIDENT



"I've seen how Emeril Lagasse Foundation's programs transform lives, providing the education, mentorship, and support kids need to overcome barriers. But there's so much more to do. Our fundraising campaign is critical to expanding these programs and reaching more under-resourced youth. With your support, we can deepen our impact and give even more children the chance to lead healthier, brighter futures. The more we do, the more lives we change—and that's why this campaign matters."

GARY SOLOMON
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD AND CHAIR OF GRANTS COMMITTEE,
EMERIL LAGASSE FOUNDATION

THE NEED IS GREAT



Orange County School of the Arts, Orange County, CA



"Every child deserves the opportunity to succeed, but not every child has the resources. This campaign will change that, and I'm proud to be a part of something that will help so many young lives."

SUZANNE PRIDE BRYAN
CO-OWNER, PRIDE MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS, LLC
EMERIL LAGASSE FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER



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

In life, obstacles are a universal experience, touching all corners of society—especially for young people living in under-resourced areas or facing other life challenges. Within these communities, countless young people possess immense potential yet are constrained by formidable barriers to success.

OUR VISION IS **BOLD.** OUR PLAN IS **DELIBERATE.** OUR FOUNDATION IS **STRONG.**

THE CHALLENGE

THE TOLL ON YOUTH

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF YOUR GIFT

QUALITY EDUCATION

Children without quality education struggle academically, are less likely to graduate, and face limited career opportunities

Providing quality education equips children to break cycles of poverty and become informed, confident contributors to society.

Investing in education reduces reliance on social services and fosters a skilled workforce, driving economic growth.

ROLE MODELS

Without role models, children lack guidance, struggle with self-esteem, and are more likely to engage in risky behaviors.

Positive role models inspire children to dream big, build self-confidence, and pursue meaningful goals.

Children with strong role models are less likely to engage in risky behaviors, reducing costs associated with social issues.

NUTRITION

Inadequate nutrition leads to poor physical and cognitive development, making it harder for children to focus, learn, and grow.

Adequate nutrition supports physical and cognitive development, ensuring children are prepared to learn and thrive.

Ensuring proper nutrition minimizes long-term healthcare expenses and increases productivity.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Without career opportunities, children lack direction and pathways to economic independence, perpetuating cycles of poverty.

Access to career opportunities empowers children to envision a brighter future and gain economic independence.

Career pathways reduce unemployment rates and contribute to a stronger, more resilient economy.

Rooted in reflection and forward-thinking, the following pillars encapsulate our strategic goals' ingredients for success.



EMERIL'S CULINARY GARDEN & TEACHING KITCHEN

Our Signature Program addresses disparities in children's education by integrating immersive, food-centered learning into school environments. Through hands-on experiences in gardening and cooking, we empower students to build valuable life skills while fostering healthier schools.

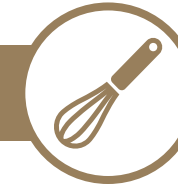
Through this campaign, we will expand to 10 school partners and advance our Cultivator Program to foster mentorship and shared learning. Together, these efforts will bring food education and resources to 15,000 students nationwide.



AARÓN SÁNCHEZ IMPACT FUND

By investing in the aspirations of Latino youth, we empower them to become future leaders and drive cultural enrichment. The Aarón Sánchez Impact Fund (ASIF), a program of Emeril Lagasse Foundation, provides culinary education and support for Latino youth through scholarships and grants to nonprofits.

Through this campaign, we aim to double the number of scholarships awarded over the next three years, helping more aspiring Latino chefs.



COMMUNITY GRANTS

Our community grants provide vital support to the most vulnerable children, offering resources like meals for food-insecure families, after-school programs, and hospitality training for youth. These grants ensure that every child has the tools they need to thrive.

Through this campaign, we will expand our impact and sustain the transformative work of our beneficiaries in the regions we serve.



ENDOWMENT

Our Legacy initiative secures the long-term impact of our mission by strengthening our endowment, upgrading infrastructure and investing in our staff. This ensures that our programs operate efficiently and innovate continuously, enabling us to reach more communities.

Through this campaign, we will establish a robust endowment and address key infrastructure needs, guaranteeing the vitality of Emeril Lagasse Foundation for generations to come.



250K YOUTH BY 2027

EMERIL'S CULINARY GARDEN & TEACHING KITCHEN



EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES NATIONWIDE

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

Our Signature Program aims to bridge educational gaps and create healthier, more inclusive school environments. Through hands-on, project-based learning centered around food, we inspire young learners to explore, grow, and thrive.

Since its launch in 2016, Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen has brought gardening and cooking to school curriculums, engaging students in meaningful experiences that connect them to the origins of their food. This innovative program equips children with life skills that extend beyond the kitchen.

In 2022, we expanded our reach with the Cultivator Grant Program, empowering more schools with the resources and knowledge to implement seed-to-table education, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed.

WE AIM TO INCREASE NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED BY 40%



SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

STARLIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | WATSONVILLE, CA

The success of our program at Starlight Elementary School shows how Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen can revolutionize education. By funding a teaching kitchen and culinary garden at Starlight, we've sparked a district-wide commitment to bring edible education and school gardens to all elementary schools. This ripple effect is increasing access to food, health, and nutrition while providing innovative learning models for young students. Nearly 20,000 Pajaro Valley students and their families now benefit from these resources, and we're also helping local nonprofits expand health and wellness education throughout the community

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



"Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen is a stand-out program that shares our passion for empowering youth through education that goes beyond traditional learning. Supporting this hands-on program helps break barriers and gives kids the tools to thrive in school and life."

CARNIVAL FOUNDATION,
COMMUNITY SUPPORTER

AARÓN SÁNCHEZ IMPACT FUND



UPLIFTING LATINO YOUTH

By investing in the needs and aspirations of Latino youth, we can empower them to become future leaders and drive positive change and cultural enrichment.

Aarón Sánchez Impact Fund (ASIF), a program of Emeril Lagasse Foundation, creates opportunities to uplift the lives of Latino youth through food. The program provides culinary education through the Aaron Sanchez Scholarship and awards grants to nonprofit organizations providing human services.

▼
WE AIM TO
DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF
**CULINARY ARTS
SCHOLARSHIPS**



SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

MEET JASMINE | NEW YORK, NY

Jasmine's culinary journey is a testament to resilience and passion. With the support of the Aarón Sánchez Scholarship, Jasmine attended the Institute of Culinary Education in New York City, which opened doors to an externship at Chef Jean-Georges' JoJo restaurant. Her talent and dedication shone through, quickly earning her a full-time role as a line cook, and within a year, she was promoted to sous chef. Today, Jasmine aspires to further refine her skills abroad, demonstrating how this program empowers scholars to achieve their dreams and contribute meaningfully to the industry.



SPOTLIGHT



"I chose to partner with Emeril Lagasse Foundation because I knew we couldn't do this alone. Together, we're reaching and supporting more Latino youth, providing scholarships and mentorship that change lives. Your support helps us create real opportunities and a brighter future."

AARÓN SÁNCHEZ,
EMERIL LAGASSE FOUNDATION
BOARD MEMBER

"The Aarón Sánchez Scholarship has given me the opportunity to find my culinary voice and make me into this amazing chef that I dream to be, that I am destined to be."

JASMINE, AARÓN SÁNCHEZ SCHOLARSHIP,
CLASS OF 2022

COMMUNITY GRANTS

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES NATIONWIDE

Our Community Grants play a crucial role in supporting the most vulnerable children. Whether they provide meals for food-insecure families, fund after-school programs, or advanced life skills development for youth through hospitality training programs, these grants ensure that every child has access to the resources they need to flourish.

Reaching our campaign goal will help us increase funding for community grants and expand our impact.

We aim to bolster the success of young individuals. Our beneficiaries are the cornerstones in the regions we support and require sustained funding to build on their transformative work.



WE AIM TO

**INVEST OVER \$6 MILLION
IN YOUTH PROGRAMMING**

INCREASE IMPACT BY 25%



SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

**YOUTH EMPOWERMENT
PROJECT (YEP) | NEW ORLEANS, LA**

Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) is the Greater New Orleans region's largest, most comprehensive organization addressing the needs of vulnerable youth, annually serving more than 1,200 young people who are out of school, work or have experienced significant trauma.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



“Supporting this campaign means funding programs that directly address the needs of vulnerable youth in our communities. Whether it’s through meals, after-school programs, or life skills training, we’re making sure every child has the chance to flourish.”

**NAN AND WAYNE KOCOUREK,
COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS**



“People around this community need help. I was actually one of those kids, in and out of houses, and all I knew was YEP.”

**LARRY,
YEP YOUTH COUNSELOR AND
FORMER YEP CAMPER**

BUILDING CAPACITY



SECURING A DYNAMIC FUTURE

This campaign marks a pivotal moment for our foundation. Strengthening our endowment provides a stable financial foundation. Upgrading infrastructure boosts efficiency and fosters innovation. Investing in our staff enhances our expertise and extends our reach. With greater capacity, we're poised to fulfill our mission for generations to come.

At the conclusion of this campaign, we will establish a strong endowment and tackle essential infrastructure needs, ensuring the vitality of our mission for generations to come.

▼
WE AIM TO
ACHIEVE
400% GROWTH
BY 2027



SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

NEW ORLEANS CENTER FOR CREATIVE ARTS (NOCCA) | NEW ORLEANS, LA

New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA)'s culinary arts program, developed in collaboration with Emeril Lagasse Foundation, features a first-of-its-kind curriculum for high school students. In classes concentrating on hands-on training and technique, students have the opportunity to work side by side with industry-leading chefs who serve as professional mentors while delivering all aspects of the curriculum.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



"This campaign isn't just about meeting today's needs. It's about creating a legacy of opportunity, ensuring the Foundation's work continues for generations. By strengthening our endowment, we're securing the future for the young people we serve."

DON & ROSE STEINER,
EMERIL LAGASSE FOUNDATION
NATIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL MEMBER

"My instructors have become more than teachers; they are lifelong mentors whom I know I can call on. They have supported me, given advice, and most importantly, prepared me for what is to come next in my life."

KALEB, CULINARY ARTS IV, NOCCA

JOIN THE AMPLIFIER EFFECT

We recognize the interconnected nature of the barriers that stand between young people and their dreams. Your support of Emeril Lagasse Foundation is the key ingredient that fuels our mission. With your support, we can provide the guidance, resources and opportunities that children need to overcome adversity, pursue their passions and achieve their goals.

By investing in Emeril Lagasse Foundation, you're contributing to and amplifying the cause. Your commitment will leverage our visibility, credibility and influence to mobilize others, access resources and inspire change. Together, we can create a ripple effect of generosity and transform lives for generations to come.

Together, let's build bridges to success and create pathways for young people to thrive.



For additional information or to schedule a meeting, please contact:



BRIAN KISH, PRESIDENT

520-305-6484
bkish@emeril.org

EMERIL.ORG

IMPACT LEVEL	
MASTER CHEF	\$1,000,000+
HEAD CHEF	\$500,000 - \$999,999
SOUS CHEF	\$250,000 - \$499,999
NOURISHER	\$100,000 - \$249,999
CULTIVATOR	\$50,000 - \$99,999
HARVESTOR	< \$50,000

Every gift, no matter the amount, makes a meaningful impact and is deeply appreciated.



Emeril Lagasse Foundation



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