

Dear Friend of EDWINS,

Autumn is finally upon us! While no one can say that 2020 has been easy, you know all of us at EDWINS will continue to fight. We keep pushing ahead at the Restaurant, Butcher Shop and Bakery. Our students are dedicated to learning all the knife cuts, wine pairings and mother sauces that they will need for culinary careers.

Why do we keep fighting? First, we know that work must continue for the thousands that return home from incarceration each year. While we are proud of our successes at EDWINS and our nearly 400 graduates, we know that we are far from the ultimate goal of ensuring everyone has a shot at a fair and equal future.

We fight for our graduates to change the face of kitchens and dining rooms across the city. Cleveland's restaurants need managers that reflect the diversity of the city. That's why we created our Management Fellowship.

We keep fighting for our neighbors in Buckeye and Shaker Square. We want to do our part to ensure the vitality of our neighborhoods. Cleveland is at the center of all we do, and we fight to build an inclusive community for everyone.

We fight for our families. Our students and alumni are constantly striving for the betterment of their lives and the lives of their families. That fighting spirit drives our students to push past times when the obstacles seem insurmountable. Through sheer will they move forward when their backs are against the wall. They never are just satisfied with good enough and are on the path to be Cleveland's next culinary leaders.

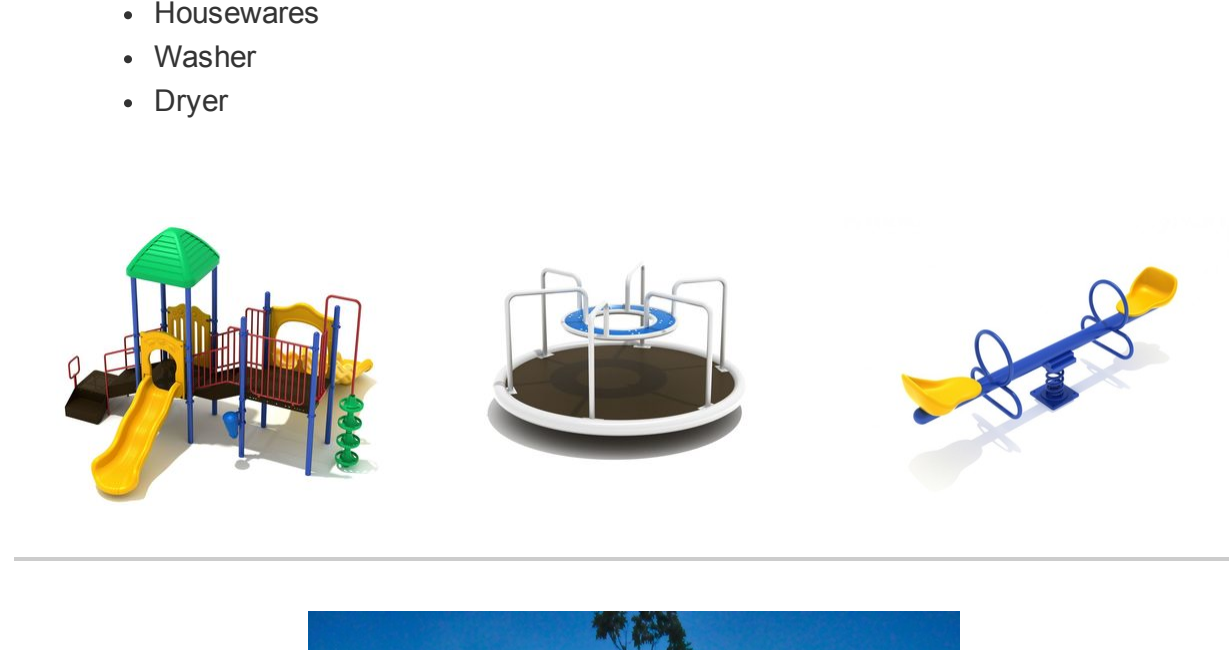
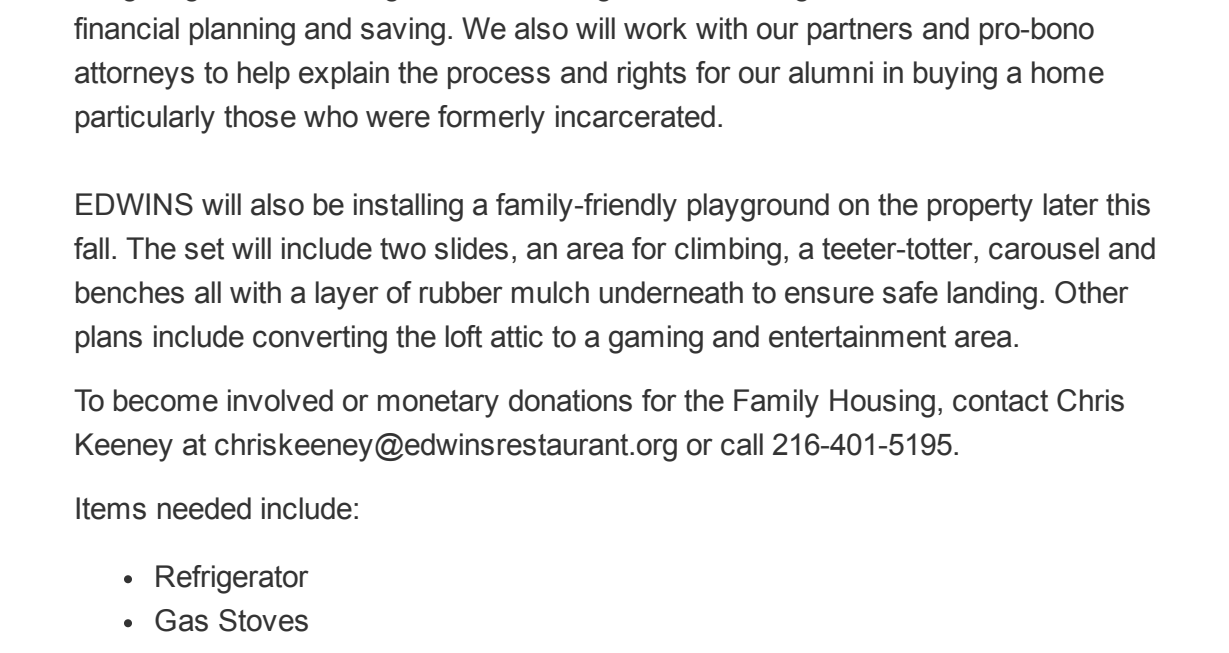
This year has shown us how inequality impacts us our society. The fight is far from over. Let's all do our part to join the fight and be part of the solution.

A bientôt,

Brandon E. Chrostowski

Founder, President and CEO

EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute



Family Housing Added to EDWINS Campus

Everything we do at EDWINS is driven by the needs of our students and alumni. While we have been able to provide housing for our students and alumni for years now, it has remained limited to single occupants. Through consistent communication with our students and alumni, a need for family housing was identified and we leapt into action acquiring two properties adjacent to our campus. The first apartment building is currently under the final stages of renovation including bathroom and kitchen upgrades and should have its first tenants soon.

We anticipate consistent occupancy of these apartments and will likely need to purchase additional units to fulfill the need in the near future.

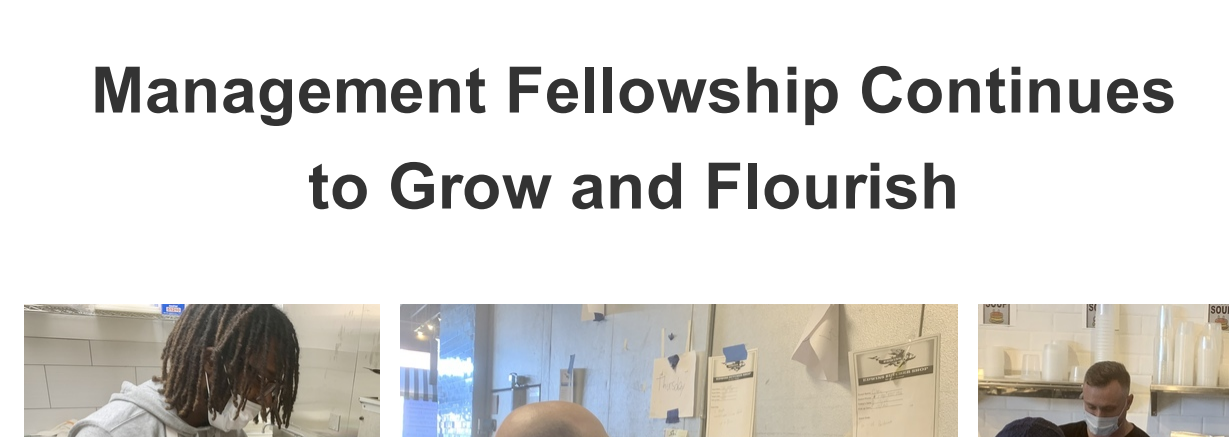
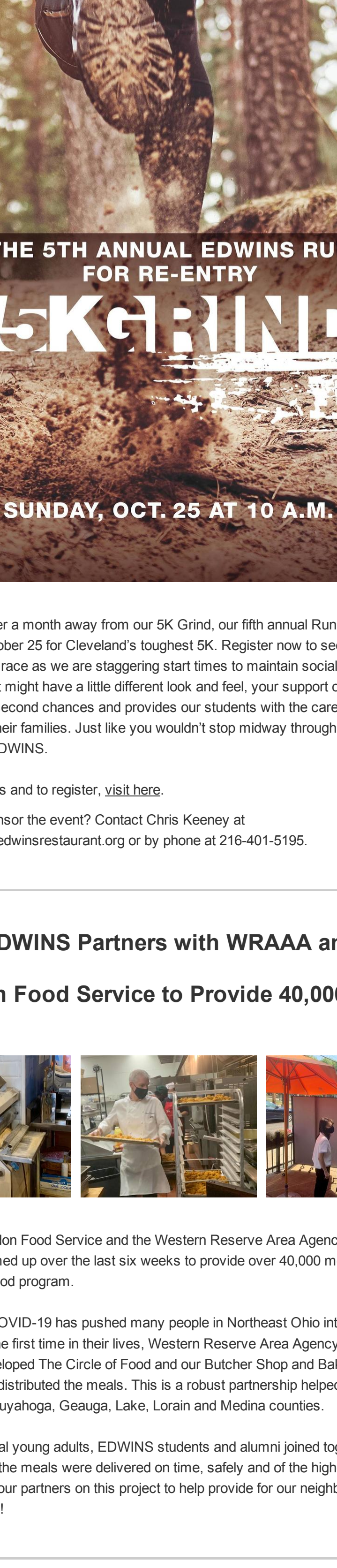
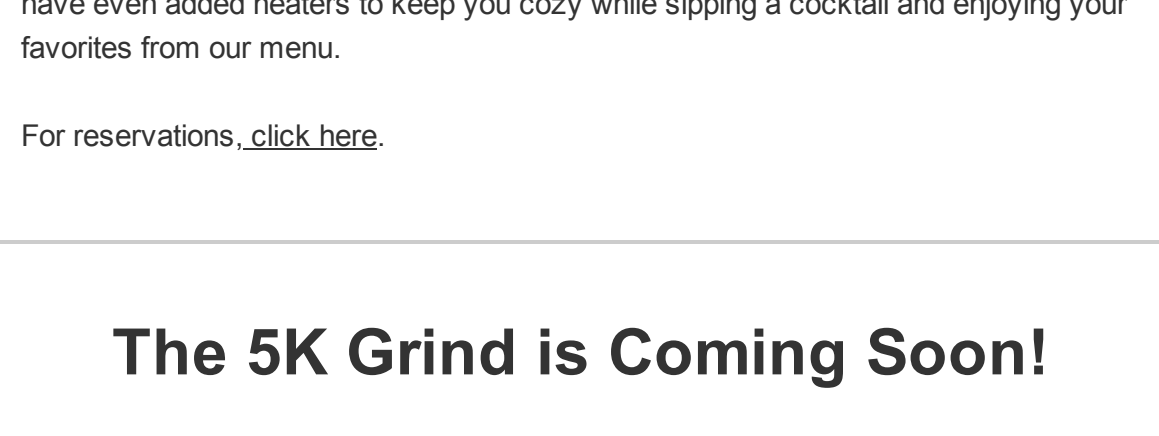
As part of the program, all tenants will work in collaboration with Heather, our Case Manager, and other nonprofits to get on track for homeownership. The plan is to mitigate the issues that would prevent the alumni from obtaining such housing such as family therapy, mental health issues anger management and decision making. The other major component will include financial education and raising awareness of home buyer and homeowner rights. This portion of the program will include which includes budgeting, understanding credit, obtaining a loan, making smart financial decisions, financial planning and saving. We also will work with our partners and pro-bono attorneys to help explain the process and rights for our alumni in buying a home particularly those who were formerly incarcerated.

EDWINS will also be installing a family-friendly playground on the property later this fall. The set will include two slides, an area for climbing, a teeter-totter, carousel and benches all with a layer of rubber mulch underneath to ensure safe landing. Other plans include converting the loft attic to a gaming and entertainment area.

To become involved or monetary donations for the Family Housing, contact Chris Keeney at chriskeeney@edwinsrestaurant.org or call 216-401-5195.

Items needed include:

- Refrigerator
- Gas Stoves
- Housewares
- Washer
- Dryer

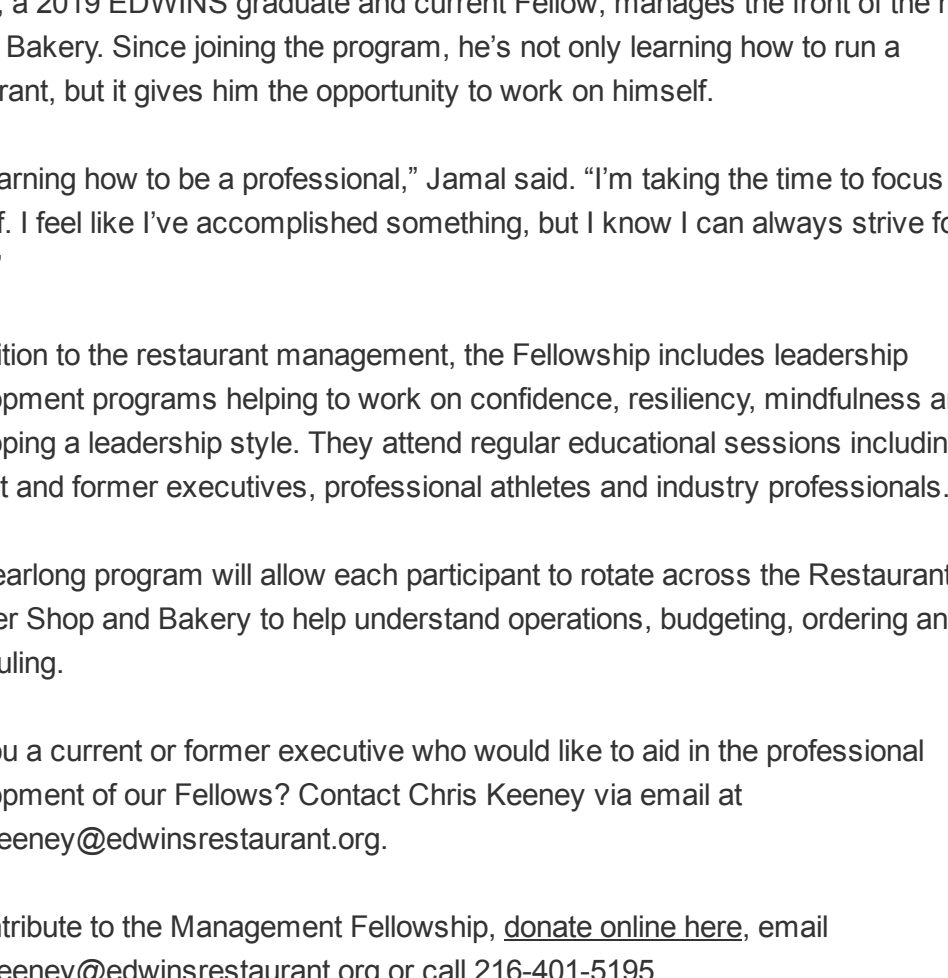


The Patio is the Place to Be This Fall!

We have been fortunate to host guests on the patio for dinner, special events and more all spring and summer! We know what is right around the corner as Clevelanders. But our patio has you covered...literally. The outdoor dining space is covered with two tents and walls to help keep the cool breeze from your table. We have even added heaters to keep you cozy while sipping a cocktail and enjoying your favorites from our menu.

For reservations, [click here](#).

The 5K Grind is Coming Soon!



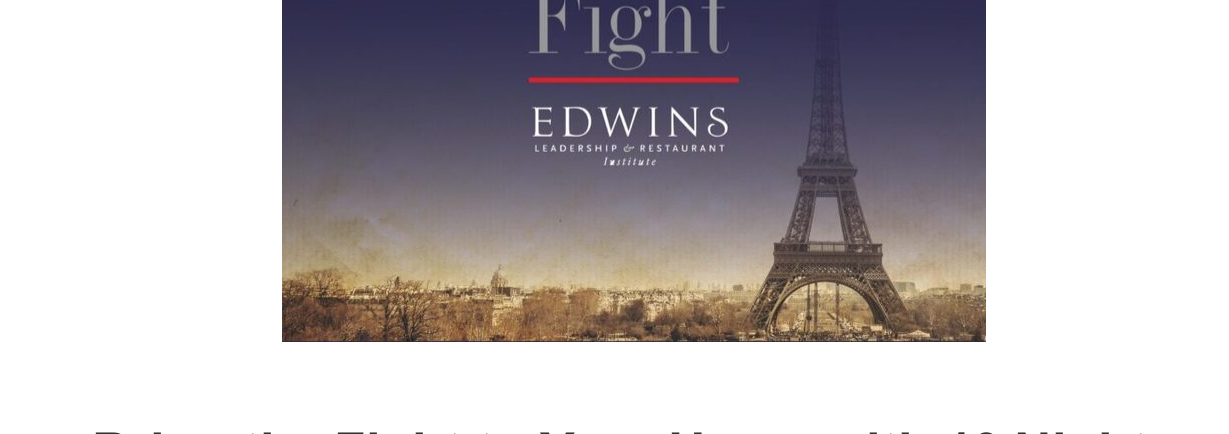
We are just over a month away from our 5K Grind, our fifth annual Run for Reentry. Join us on October 25 for Cleveland's toughest 5K. Register now to secure your time slot to start the race as we are staggering start times to maintain social distancing. While the event might have a little different look and feel, your support of the event still helps support second chances and provides our students with the careers they need to provide for their families. Just like you wouldn't stop midway through the course, we won't stop at EDWINS.

For more details and to register, [visit here](#).

Looking to sponsor the event? Contact Chris Keeney at chriskeeney@edwinsrestaurant.org or by phone at 216-401-5195.

EDWINS Partners with WRAAA and

Gordon Food Service to Provide 40,000 Meals



EDWINS, Gordon Food Service and the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging (WRAAA) teamed up over the last six weeks to provide over 40,000 meals as part of the Circle of Food program.

Recognizing COVID-19 has pushed many people in Northeast Ohio into food insecurity for the first time in their lives, Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging (WRAAA) developed The Circle of Food and our Butcher Shop and Bakery cooked, packaged and distributed the meals. This is a robust partnership helped serve individuals in Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina counties.

Volunteers, local young adults, EDWINS students and alumni joined together to guarantee that the meals were delivered on time, safely and of the highest quality. We are thankful to our partners on this project to help provide for our neighbors across Northeast Ohio!

Management Fellowship Continues to Grow and Flourish



After a successful pilot last year, the EDWINS Management Fellowship has grown to include five graduates who are helping to manage the Butcher Shop, Bakery and Restaurant.

The EDWINS Management Fellowship provides participants with specialized and interactive training from northeast Ohio's most talented restaurant managers and chefs. This technical instruction helps nurture tomorrow's leaders – owners, operators and managers – and meet the increasing talent demands of Cleveland's ever-growing restaurant scene.

Jamal, a 2019 EDWINS graduate and current Fellow, manages the front of the house for the Bakery. Since joining the program, he's not only learning how to run a restaurant, but it gives him the opportunity to work on himself.

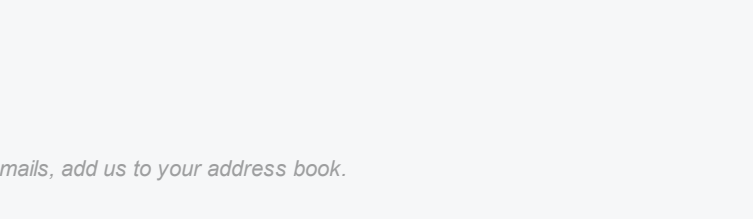
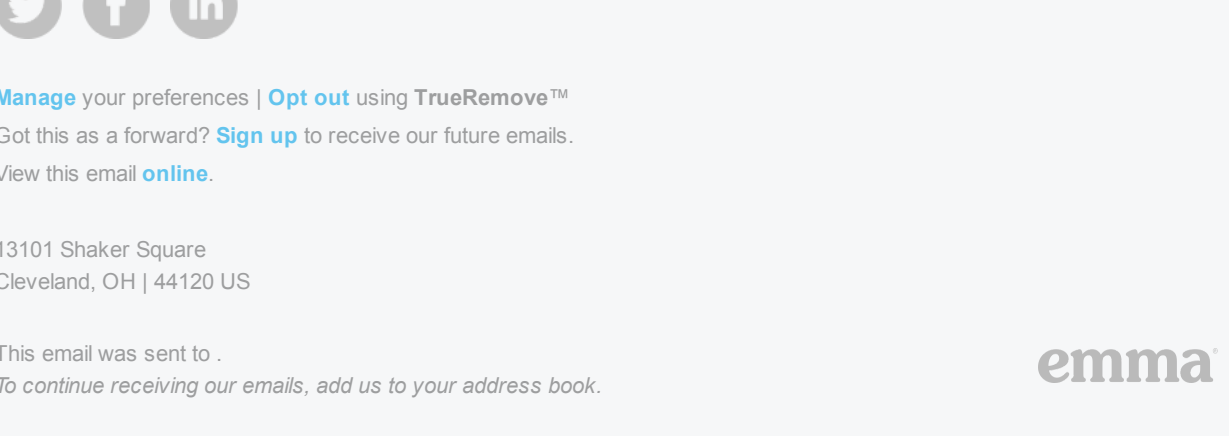
"I'm learning how to be a professional," Jamal said. "I'm taking the time to focus on myself. I feel like I've accomplished something, but I know I can always strive for more."

In addition to the restaurant management, the Fellowship includes leadership development programs helping to work on confidence, resiliency, mindfulness and developing a leadership style. They attend regular educational sessions including current and former executives, professional athletes and industry professionals.

The yearlong program will allow each participant to rotate across the Restaurant, Butcher Shop and Bakery to help understand operations, budgeting, ordering and scheduling.

Are you a current or former executive who would like to aid in the professional development of our Fellows? Contact Chris Keeney via email at chriskeeney@edwinsrestaurant.org.

To contribute to the Management Fellowship, [donate online here](#), email chriskeeney@edwinsrestaurant.org or call 216-401-5195.



Bring the Fight to Your Home with 10 Nights to Continue the Fight

10 Nights to Continue the Fight is a chance to promote reentry directly from your home. This multi-night fundraiser will bring Brandon and the team to you to support EDWINS, a non-profit restaurant and training program fighting for social justice. EDWINS provides a fair and equal future to formerly-incarcerated men and women with tuition-free education in the culinary arts and hospitality management. While nearly half of all returning citizens will return to prison within three years, EDWINS has a recidivism rate of less than 1%. A better way to fight for equity is to keep people out of our criminal justice system!

Throughout October, you and nine friends will have the chance to host an EDWINS dinner party featuring Brandon as well as our students and alumni. A 15-minute program featuring speakers will be live-streamed each night from the host's home to help viewers and party attendees learn more about EDWINS and its focus on families, careers and revitalizing Buckeye. Plus, everyone will have a chance to host one night with our raffle including the dinner for ten with Brandon and many other great prizes!

To purchase one raffle ticket, [click here](#).

For three tickets and meal kit, [click here](#).

If you want to sponsor or host a night, please contact Chris Keeney at 216-401-5195 or chriskeeney@edwinsrestaurant.org

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EDWINS Brings "Second Chances" to Cleveland Neighborhood (Spectrum News One)

Chrostowski Named Manhattan Institute Fellow (Crain's Cleveland)

Circle of Life program stepping up in the hopes of preventing people from going hungry (19 News)

EDWINS to hold 'live fire' dining event (Cleveland.com)

EDWINS acquires two multi-family homes to provide housing for their students, graduates (WKYC Studios)

The Cleveland Browns invite fans to Be the Solution (ESPN.com)