



## The Rachael Ray Foundation Selects Morris County School of Technology to Receive a ProStart Grow Grant

*"ProStart Grow Grants" totaling \$135,000 awarded to help deserving high schools improve their existing ProStart Programs.*

**Denville, NJ – [5/3/21]** – Morris County School of Technology in Denville will receive \$5,000 in special funding to update and expand their ProStart program thanks to [The Rachael Ray Foundation](#) (RRF).

Through The Rachael Ray Foundation ProStart Grow Grants, the [National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation](#) (NRAEF) will provide 27 grants, totaling \$135,000, to ProStart schools that have demonstrated a strong need to engage and educate high school students interested in exploring restaurant and foodservice jobs and careers. Morris County School of Technology was selected as one of the 27 schools to receive \$5,000 in funding for the initiative.



ProStart, a two-year career and technical education program focused on culinary arts and restaurant management, is offered in 1,700 schools across the country and currently enrolls 130,000 students. This school year, ProStart educators have largely adapted to the COVID19 restrictions with a mix of virtual and in-person learning, posing challenges for students to learn the hands-on skills the program often requires. Funding from the RRF ProStart Grow Grants will enable Morris County School of Technology to use the funds in support of the program and towards new kitchen equipment, professional development, and distance/virtual learning aids.

"ProStart educators and students have persevered through this difficult year and are continuing to pursue their passions for restaurants and foodservice against all odds" said Rachael Ray, award-winning television personality and philanthropist. "The Rachael Ray Foundation is proud to support their dreams to become future chefs and restaurateurs and provide them with the resources they need to be successful in their classrooms. We can't wait to see what these students will accomplish."

"We're incredibly grateful to receive the ProStart Grow Grant," said Principal Lynne Jackson of the Morris County School of Technology. "The funds will help to enhance the Academy for Culinary Arts with both equipment and programs."

Questions or need more information?  
Contact the NRAEF Communications team at [Comms@nraef.org](mailto:Comms@nraef.org).

Winning schools awarded a ProStart Grow Grant were required to demonstrate how the program is positively impacting their students and the community. Grants are valued at \$5,000 per school.

Morris County School of Technology will be able to use their funds from the Rachael Ray Foundation starting this year. To stay connected to their plans, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#) @MorrisCountyVSD and the NRAEF's ProStart channels on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) using the hashtag #ProStartGrowGrant.

### **About Morris County School of Technology**

The Morris County Vocational School District ([www.mcvts.org](http://www.mcvts.org)) provides vocational and enrichment programs that inspire and prepare students to succeed in today's world and pursue tomorrow's opportunities. The Academy for Culinary Arts, located at the Morris County School of Technology in Denville, is a four-year, full-time career and technical education high school program that provides students with a solid foundation in the field of culinary arts. Emphasis is placed on current industry cooking and baking methods and techniques. Students get extensive hands-on experience in catering and serving in a commercial kitchen and dining facility.

### **About the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation**

As the philanthropic foundation of the National Restaurant Association, the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation's mission of service to the public is dedicated to enhancing the industry's training and education, career development and community engagement efforts. The NRAEF and its programs work to Attract, Empower and Advance today's and tomorrow's restaurant and foodservice workforce. NRAEF programs include: ProStart® – a high-school career and technical education program; Restaurant Ready – partnering with community based organizations to provide opportunity youth and justice-involved individuals with skills training and job opportunities; Military – helping military servicemen and women transition their skills to restaurant and foodservice careers; Scholarships – financial assistance for students pursuing restaurant, foodservice and hospitality degrees; and, the Hospitality Sector Registered Apprenticeship project – a partnership with the American Hotel & Lodging Association providing a hospitality apprenticeship program for the industry. For more information on the NRAEF, visit [ChooseRestaurants.org](http://ChooseRestaurants.org).

### **About The Rachael Ray Foundation**

The Rachael Ray Foundation(tm) is a private foundation funded by a portion of the proceeds of each sale of Rachael Ray(tm) Nutrish®. The Foundation supports causes Rachael cares for most such as helping animals in need and working with organizations to support the "Cook, Feed & Fund" mission of Yum-o!, a non-profit formed by Rachael to empower kids and their families to develop healthy relationships with food and cooking. To learn more about The Rachael Ray Foundation please visit [www.rachaelrayfoundation.org](http://www.rachaelrayfoundation.org)

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