



### ***Chicana Farmer Edu-Plate Initiative: Indoor Farming for Schools***

The future of farming is here with the Chicana Farmer Edu-Plate Initiative's Indoor Farming Program. This initiative uses cutting-edge technology like hydroponics, aquaponics, and vertical farming to create year-round growing environments inside your school. Indoor farming offers students a unique opportunity to engage with sustainable food production and learn how innovation can shape the future of agriculture. This initiative also supports our goal of bringing fresh, nutritious food into schools while educating students on how food impacts mental and physical health.

#### ***Program Details:***

- *Hydroponics and Aquaponics Systems:* We install and manage easy-to-maintain indoor farming systems that allow students to grow fresh produce without soil. These systems use less water and are more space-efficient than traditional gardening methods.
- *STEM Integration:* Indoor farming teaches students key concepts in biology, chemistry, environmental science, and engineering, making it a perfect fit for STEM-focused curriculums.
- *Hands-On Participation:* Students can actively monitor plant growth, adjust nutrients, and track yields. These systems can provide valuable lessons in data collection, experimentation, and the scientific method.
- *Nutrition and Cafeteria Integration:* The produce grown through these systems can be used in school cafeterias, ensuring students have access to fresh, nutrient-rich vegetables throughout the year.

#### ***Benefits:***

- *Innovative Learning:* Indoor farming introduces students to modern agricultural practices, preparing them for future opportunities in STEM fields and sustainable industries.
- *Year-Round Food Production:* Unlike outdoor gardens, indoor farming provides consistent access to fresh produce regardless of weather conditions, supporting the school's meal program.
- *Mental Health and Engagement:* Indoor farming engages students with nature and food production, which can help reduce anxiety and improve focus, contributing to their overall mental health.

#### ***Call to Action:***

Bring the farm into the classroom with the Chicana Farmer Edu-Plate Initiative's Indoor Farming Program. Contact us at [Thrive@marinasrubyslipper.org](mailto:Thrive@marinasrubyslipper.org) 800.594.9970 [www.marinarubyslipper.org](http://www.marinarubyslipper.org) to learn more about integrating indoor farming into your school's curriculum.