

# FISHIN BUDDIES!

Conservation and Fishing Programs Since 1991



## Nature, Technology & Tomorrow Initiative (NTT)

### What is the Nature, Technology & Tomorrow Initiative (NTT)?

FISHIN' BUDDIES! (FB) believes that the innovative incorporation of technology can enhance our mission of training youth through conservation programs and unlock their creativity and inventiveness. The rapid adoption of cellular broadband and cloud computing has created new opportunities for our young citizens to interact and learn within their environment. This initiative aims to directly enhance the user's outdoor experience in particular. Our vision is to focus on the synergy of nature and technology to help our citizens transition into a sustainable future. FISHIN' BUDDIES! will engage a multiuse web application platform, to leverage high speed internet access to enhance the use of outdoor public facilities through a partnership involving government environmental agencies, local businesses, neighborhood organizations, local high schools and local not-for-profit organizations.



NTT is a FISHIN' BUDDIES! developed project awarded by People Connecting Illinois (PCI) as 1 of only 14 statewide initiatives chosen to innovate how Illinois residents access and use high speed internet access.

### Goals of the Nature, Technology and Tomorrow Initiative

**Goal 1.** Create an app on the iOS and Android platform that will show a virtual display of all native plant & animal species found at a local Cook County Forest Preserve based on the users global position.

**Goal 2.** Create a mobile research center on the south side of Chicago's Washington Heights area. The research center will serve the purpose of training at risk urban high school students with the innovative knowledge and techniques to research, design and build an open source cloud based re-

search database of the native and invasive plant and animal species found within the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (FPDCC). The database will be leveraged by the newly created FB App to provide on-site real-time scientific information of animal and plant species at the Forest Preserve site, enhancing and encouraging exploration of the natural areas by, conservationists, naturalists, student researchers, and the general public.

**Goal 3.** Create a training program that leverages the newly trained students and research center to train local small business owners on how to design build and implement websites, ecommerce, and Google Apps into their business model. The use of free open source platforms will help businesses digitize operations, save energy and reduce waste.



## Who is FISHIN' BUDDIES!

FISHIN' BUDDIES!, INC. is a not-for-profit conservation organization headquartered in the Washington Heights neighborhood of South Chicago. FISHIN' BUDDIES! implements conservation and environmental science programs, which include, but are not limited to, fishing, outdoor, and wildlife experiences to expose, primarily inner city children to conservation and land stewardship. Founded in 1991 FISHIN' BUDDIES! has a long history of developing strategic partnerships with local government agencies to implement conservation programs for at-risk youths. We have strong partnerships with the Forest Preserve Districts of Cook and Will Counties, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the Field Museum.



## Who will benefit?

Our target audiences are the millions of families that enjoy the use of recreation public land. In 2011 American outdoor recreation participation rose to its highest levels in five years. Nearly 50% of Americans ages six and up participated in outdoor recreation.

## What to expect if you journey with us?

FISHIN' BUDDIES! has over 20 years of experience hosting large events and developing programs that have touched thousands of inner city families. Our strategic ongoing partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies include; the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, the Illinois Broadband Fund, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the IL Dept. of Natural Resources and many others. The individuals involved in the NTT initiative have several decades of combined experience in environmental education and event management. The achievements of the FISHIN' BUDDIES! have been vetted by all of these organizations.



## Why support the Nature, Technology and Tomorrow Initiative?

vol•un•teer•ism- the principle of donating time and energy for the benefit of other people in the community as a social responsibility rather than for any financial reward.

Fishin' Buddies! Volunteers benefit both society at large and the individual student by strengthening trust, solidarity and reciprocity among participants, and by purposefully enhancing opportunities from our programming. Our volunteers are selfless, and the life blood of FB programs. We graciously thank them with our FB paraphernalia which can not be purchased any where, but must be earned. If you desire to join the ranks of these honorable men and women please contact us today.

## NTT Partners



## To become a Volunteer

### Contact FB Headquarters

Email: [NTTsupport@fishin-buddies.net](mailto:NTTsupport@fishin-buddies.net)

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