

Bemidji Area Take a Kid Fishing • PO Box 163 • Bemidji, MN 56619 Email: <u>info@BemidjiTKF.org</u> • <u>www.bemidjitkf.org</u>

March 2024

Greetings Local Business Owner,

In 1986 a group of elite fishing guides and volunteers from the Bemidji area came together to help host the Governor's Fishing Opener. When the event was over the group decided to pool their talents to help introduce area youth to the great sport of fishing. The mission was a simple one, provide kids 10-15 a great day on the water culminating with a walleye fry at days end at the Bemidji State Park all at no cost to them. This cadre of guides and volunteers have hosted this event since, with only a hiatus for COVID.

Thousands of kids have participated over the years, for many this day is their first introduction to fishing or one of the few days they get to fish. We take great pride in the fact that many of our guides were once the very kids we once took fishing.

Bemidji Area Take a Kid Fishing has received local, national and even international acclaim via print, radio and television and has been the recipient of local awards as well. Considered the gold standard the group has mentored other communities as they launch their own event.

The support we have received over the years has been incredible and greatly appreciated. As we move forward planning our upcoming event we would like to appeal to you to help continue this tradition. Both monetary and in kind donations help us to host this event.

If you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer please contact the number below. Also if you know any child ages 10-15 that would like to participate please use the website <u>www.bemidjitkf.org</u>. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely, Holly Hopple Committee Member 970-618-0625