



# **INTERNITY: *Hooking Up Initiative and Fishing Derby***

Project Leads: Butch Moore and William Barna

## **GOAL:**

The goal of this program is to create opportunities for therapeutic recreation, develop community support and interaction with disabled veterans and their families, create camaraderie and good will between participants, create a love for freshwater fishing, and develop funding for veteran operations and programming.

## **DESCRIPTION:**

This program will address multiple issues to help veterans who are emotionally struggling to feel needed and appreciated, create a mechanism to connect with their communities and their families, and teach skills that will support brain neuroplasticity. By creating a new activity that will affect dopamine, norepinephrine, and serotonin in the brain, INTERNITY is filling the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs that are often overlooked by conventional medicine.

## **OPERATIONS:**

The INTERNITY team can recruit boat owners and volunteers, fishing supply companies, and sportsmen's groups to volunteer, time, talent, space, and products. This will help veterans learn real skills and make life changes that will help balance their brain chemistry, and may reduce the suicide ideation that many ponder.

## **SPECIFIC NEEDS:**

We are in need of fishing rods and reels, small tackle boxes, lures for small and large mouth bass, togue, pickerel, and trout, Leatherman type utility tools, and scales for weighing fish.