

Fishing For Memories, Inc.

🐟 Strengthening Families One Memory at a Time 🐟

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Fishing For Memories, Inc. (FFM) Fact Sheet – 2017

- Fishing For Memories, Inc. was founded on July 3, 2003 by Christopher and Jennie Ebner. FFM, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, serves the communities of Butler, Allegheny, and surrounding counties in Western Pennsylvania.

- FFM's programs (begun in '04) are designed to provide fun opportunities for children and youth, ages 5 to 17, to learn about fish identification and the responsible use and conservation of the environment. Also, FFM's programs help them learn fishing skills and participate in cooperation building activities. FFM continually strives to provide Western Pennsylvanian children/youth and their families an encouraging atmosphere to strengthen them one memory at a time.



- FFM's programs include: Family Outdoor Fun Days, Tomorrow's Outdoorsmen Programs, Gone Fishin' Crash Courses, and a Harvest Party with a Mystery Fish Theme.



- As of December 31, 2017, Fishing For Memories, Inc. has served 536 children/youth, 203 adults, from 261 families, totaling 739 people from Butler and surrounding counties.
- FFM works with families of special needs from hearing impairment to quadriplegic, foster/adoptive children, single parent, kinship care, and children/youth needing some quality time spent outdoors. FFM also works with groups like Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts, church youth classes and after-school programs, and other community organizations working with children/youth.

- Thus far, all fishing activities have been conducted at Little Bitty Lake, 308 Eyth Road, Butler, PA 16002. The 3 – acre, privately owned, pond is ideal for first time fishermen, with eager bass and bluegill ready to nibble on a tasty worm. One FFM event, a Tomorrow's Outdoorsmen Program, boasted 42 fish caught (and released) in just 2 hours.
- Most of FFM's participants (both children/youth and adults) have **never** been fishing. At FFM events, they are taught not only how to fish, but usually are able to catch their very first fish that day as well.

- *Comment from an at-risk youth during a FFM event:* "This is the best day of my entire life!"
- *Comment from a parent:* "Both children and my husband talked for days about their adventure. FFM is a wonderful organization that truly does strengthen families. Little Bitty Lake is a magical place."

