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Solutions & Success

The Inside Story



Client
Industry
Respondent

The Book Fairies
Nonprofit
Eileen Minogue, Executive Director

NST Donated Their Time & Expertise To Migrate The Book Fairies To Microsoft 365

The Book Fairies is a small nonprofit that collects new and gently used books and gets them into the hands of kids that wouldn't have access to them otherwise. They work locally in Long Island and New York, and they have an overseas program to distribute books in Africa as well.

As an active charity, The Book Fairies depends heavily on their IT. In order to process and track donations, maintain their operations and programming, and manage data security, they need a robust IT environment and a team to take care of it. Furthermore, all of this needs to be achieved within the boundaries of a strict budget.

Unfortunately, despite having the same IT needs as for profit organizations, The Book Fairies and other nonprofits like them can't always afford to invest in them. That's why NST tries to help out when and where we can, such as when we managed The Book Fairies' Microsoft 365 donation, free of charge.

The Book Fairies' Executive Director Knew They Needed To Upgrade Their IT

When Eileen Minogue, Executive Director, joined The Book Fairies two years ago, it didn't take her long to realize that the organization's IT was severely out of date. Their systems were hosted by GoDaddy, they lacked important software, and their files and apps were disorganized to the point of affecting their efficiency and productivity.

"We had no accounting software, and we didn't have a CRM," says Eileen. "Those are things that I implemented upon joining The Book Fairies."

This is not uncommon for nonprofits like The Book Fairies. With a limited budget, they often make do with whatever free or consumer-grade tools they can get their hands on. Still, in her first two years as The Book Fairies' Executive Director, Eileen focused on doing everything she could to improve their IT environment and their overall productivity.



The Book Fairies Didn't Want To Mismanage Their Microsoft 365 Migration

"One of the things that I wanted to do was get us off of GoDaddy and migrate to Microsoft 365, and that's really where NST has helped us," says Eileen.

A primary goal of Eileen's was to migrate The Book Fairies from GoDaddy to Microsoft 365. Unfortunately, she knew that doing so would be a complicated process. An improperly managed migration can result in a range of negative consequences:

- During the transition, the organization could permanently lose key data with no backup or redundancies to replace it.
- The migration, already expensive, could take longer than expected and add additional downtime to the staff's work life.
- Once it finally gets installed and launched, the platform is overly complicated and difficult to learn, leading to more downtime for the staff.

An error-prone process like this requires expert planning and management — The Book Fairies trusted NST to manage it for them.

"I knew that it could be tricky, and I knew that you needed someone who knew what they were doing," says Eileen. "There was no way I would have been able to migrate if I didn't have the support that NST provided us."

NST Oversaw The Book Fairies' Microsoft 365 Migration — Free Of Charge

“Navigating a migration like that without somebody with their expertise is too big of a task for me to do,” says Eileen. “They provided the migration free of charge, which is huge.”

The Book Fairies got in touch with NST through one of their board members, and inquired if they could help. The NST team knew that The Book Fairies didn’t have a big IT budget, and chose to manage the migration from GoDaddy to Microsoft 365 as a donation.

“We are mean and lean, and it just wasn’t in my budget,” says Eileen. “But I knew that if I made the change to Microsoft 365 it would make things more efficient for us.”

In addition to executing the migration, the NST team also set up new computers for The Book Fairies as well. When the project was complete, The Book Fairies had the modern, centralized IT resources they needed to do their work even more effectively.

“What we’re trying to do is lay down the infrastructure that not only will allow us to stabilize, but grow, and you can’t do that off of 50 excel spreadsheets,” says Eileen. “Migrating was all part of the plan to stabilize.”



NST Helps The Book Fairies Make The World A Better Place

The NST team is proud to play a small part in The Book Fairies' operations. By making sure their IT is functional and cost-effective, the NST team helps The Book Fairies do what they do every day.

"We're extremely grateful that we had that type of technical assistance on hand," says Eileen.



Their donation of time and effort helps us help the people we serve. "

- Eileen Minogue,
Executive Director, The Book Fairies

