Robust Financial Software Supports Nonprofit Mission

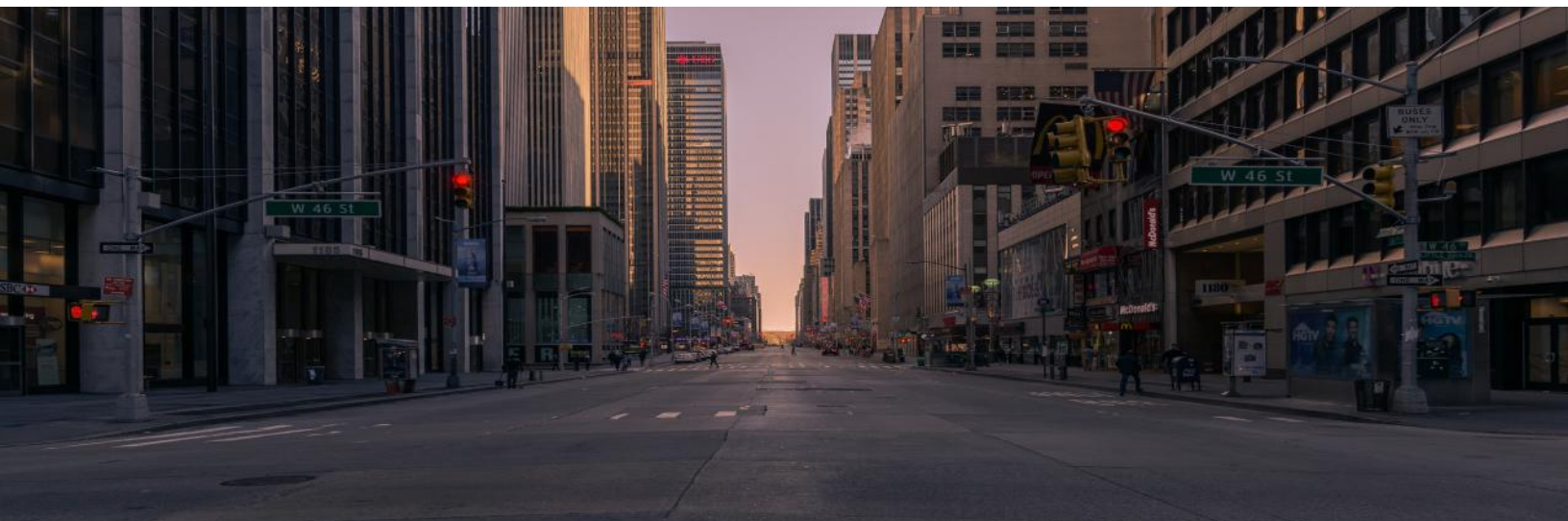## Center for Community Progress

sage Intacct

COMPUDATA

Challenges

Soon after the mortgage crisis hit the United States, national leaders organized to help communities across the country tackle the unprecedented increase in vacant properties. Since 2010, the Center for Community Progress has worked to foster strong, equitable communities where vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties are transformed into assets for neighbors and neighborhoods. The nonprofit manages educational programming, including a national conference, provides technical assistance to urban, suburban, and rural communities, and drives policy development and research to support its mission.

Company Overview

The mission of Center for Community Progress is to foster strong, equitable communities where vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties are transformed into assets for neighbors and neighborhoods. Founded in 2010, Community Progress is the leading national, nonprofit resource for urban, suburban, and rural communities seeking to address the full cycle of property revitalization. The organization fulfills its mission by nurturing strong leadership and supporting systemic reforms.

Upon joining Community Progress as Director of Finance and Administration, Brian Flood immediately saw that the organization needed more sophisticated software to track projects and grants. "Based on many years of previous experience with Sage Intacct, I was very confident it was the right choice to meet the center's financial management and reporting needs," he said. "The solution's AICPA endorsement, cloud-based access, and integration capabilities made our decision to replace QuickBooks easy, and CliftonLarsonAllen's expertise configuring Sage Intacct to our specific needs was extremely beneficial."

Executive Summary

Previous Software:

• QuickBooks

Results with Sage Intacct:

• Gained efficient visibility into project financials

• Scaled processes to avoid added headcount

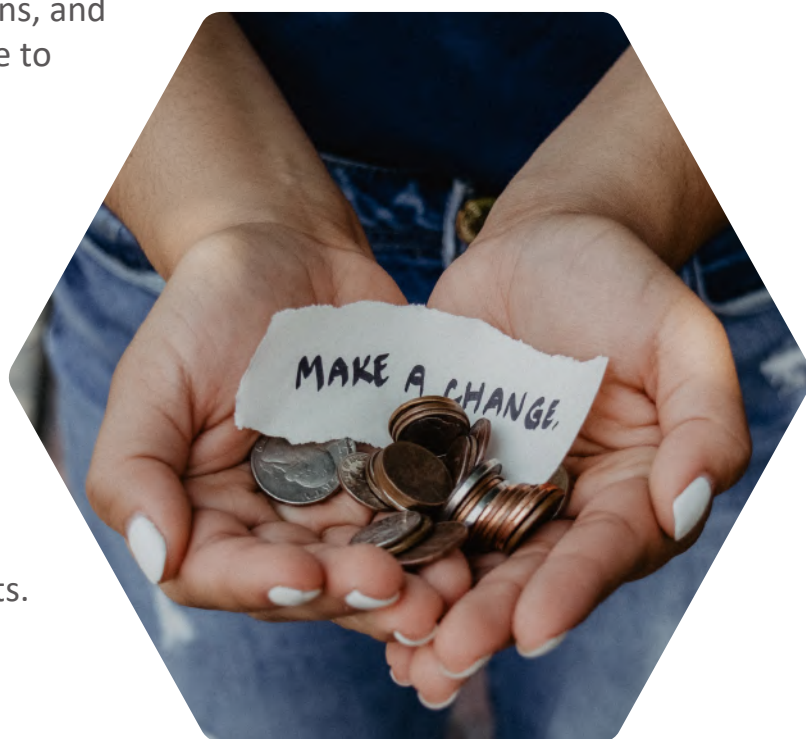• Software paid for itself in <3 months

Solutions

Project Visibility Drives Donor Confidence

Sage Intacct provides powerful reporting capabilities that track Community Progress' financial metrics across key dimensions for deeper insight into the organization. Using the system, Flood can tag transactions with specific projects, funders, and locations, and then filter, group, and organize the financial data accordingly. "Thanks to the visibility we have in Sage Intacct, we can easily look at our real-time project expenses and labor, funding by source, or other KPIs to see how each project is performing and what a typical project costs the organization," shared Flood. "We receive all types of public and private funding, so it's crucial that Sage Intacct also provides detailed reports for each grant, many of which support several different projects and have custom reporting requirements."

If a new municipality or organization requests assistance, the Center has a good handle on what it would take based on similar projects tracked in Sage Intacct. According to Flood, "From a future planning standpoint, Sage Intacct has made a big difference. The insight it provides helps us choose where to spend our limited time based on what will meet the expectations of our funders and further our mission. We can see how costs vary for certain types of projects, events, or locations, and have better understanding of where to focus our resources."

Through permissions-based Sage Intacct dashboards with current staff hours and rates, managers can quickly monitor project status. In addition, Community Progress can pull in operational data to track its program outcomes, assess performance, and determine the true cost per attendee for conferences and events.

Results

As the organization has grown over the years, so have its efficiency gains, as a result of streamlined processes in Sage Intacct. The lean finance team at Community Progress no longer spends time manually entering and allocating staff hours in Excel to support foundation grants, government funding, and fee-for-service contracts. "We never could've generated this type of reporting out of QuickBooks without hiring another full-time finance person, which would cost us more than we're paying for our Sage Intacct solution," said Flood.

Flood continued, "When I look at the tremendous productivity improvements we've seen with Sage Intacct, one of our biggest time savings comes from having time tracking capabilities for all of our individual employees across the country right in our core financial system. It takes them much less time to fill out a time report in Nexonia, which automatically syncs with Sage Intacct, so we now have a single source of truth." Community Progress also connected Sage Intacct with Nexonia for more timely and accurate expense reporting, with Paychex for payroll entries, and with CliftonLarsonAllen's allocation management app to allocate labor costs to specific projects.

"Sage Intacct provides enhanced financial controls, which, along with its seamless integrations across multiple systems, ensures that all costs are correctly assigned to the right projects so our audits go smoothly," mentioned Flood. "We've definitely reduced our audit fees by giving auditors view-only access to our supporting documentation and electronic approvals in the system." He concluded, "With Sage Intacct, I know we made the right choice because we benefit from a scalable system that's always innovating to support our continued growth."

About CompuData

CompuData is a Woman Owned Business Technology Company and Partner for Cloud Hosting, ERP Solutions, IT Security and Managed IT Services. With nearly five decades as a business technology innovator, CompuData offers an unparalleled spectrum of Accounting Financial Software and IT Solutions that are fundamental to business operational growth, efficiency and profitability. Everything we do is built around two-way collaboration with our customers. Our team takes a proactive and strategic approach to solving customer problems and creating solutions that will improve business processes and operations. Our people, technologies, and customers - Work Smarter...Together.

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About the Author

The author of this document, Sage Intacct, is the innovation and customer satisfaction leader in cloud Financial Management. Sage Intacct enables data-driven finance leaders to automate complex processes, consolidate data across many legal entities in minutes, become GAAP-compliant, and make strategic decisions using custom dashboards.