

Sage Nonprofit Solutions

Customer Success: Iberville Parish Council

Powering the Parish with Sage 100 Fund Accounting

Tucked between the swamps of Atchafalaya and the bustling state capitol of Baton Rouge is a parish that for over 200 years has helped south Louisiana not only survive, but thrive. Iberville Parish is a place rich with legend and mystery, where tales of survival and triumph are central to its core. It is a parish of a people strong and resilient from life's (and Mother Nature's) challenges.

Serving this diverse municipality is the dedicated staff of the Iberville Parish offices—who until the late 1990s had been doing their best with limited office technology. Users in different locations had to physically carry paperwork from one location to another, and data had to be entered multiple times, often resulting in errors. “We needed something more modern and robust,” explains Virginia Distefano, payroll coordinator for Iberville Parish Council. “Everything needed to be in one place.”

Stand-Alone Solution

Iberville Parish switched to Sage 100 Fund Accounting (formerly MIP), a user-friendly, integrated, stand-alone solution designed specifically for nonprofits and governmental groups. Today, its offices are totally automated with the new system and a full complement of modules.

The benefits of converting were immediately apparent. “Now, everyone can be logged in at the same time from different locations. Fixed assets and utilities databases can be accessed from anywhere. We just love it,” says Distefano.

Thanks to centralization with Sage 100 Fund Accounting, the days of carrying documents from one location to another and re-entering the data are long gone. With one click of the mouse, information has reached its destination. And manual bank reconciliations that used to take five days can now be done in just one hour.

Honing HR

When Sage recently debuted its new Human Resources Management (HR) and Employee Web Services (EWS) modules, the parish's finance director immediately realized their potential. Clearly, allowing employees to view their own HR records, and access services online, would cut the workload in HR.

“Before HR and EWS, it would take me until noon on Tuesday to finish payroll if I started first thing Monday morning,” recalls Distefano. “I can now have payroll done by noon on Monday! This saves me an entire day, every pay period.”

Challenge

Antiquated legacy system was unable to sustain the Parish's growing needs or accommodate multiple locations. Redundant data entry resulted in errors, and manual bank reconciliations were extremely time consuming.

Solution

Sage 100 Fund Accounting with full suite of components, including the new Human Resources and Employee Web Services modules.

Results

Eliminated redundant data entry errors and physical document transport; tasks that took five days are now done in one hour.



Customer

Iberville Parish Council

Industry

Municipality

Location

Iberville, Louisiana

Number of Locations

4

Number of Employees

250

System

Sage 100 Fund Accounting

- General Ledger
- Accounts Payable
- Accounts Receivable
- Bank Reconciliation
- Fixed Assets
- Purchasing
- Human Resource Management
- Employee Web Services

Sage Nonprofit Solutions

Customer Success:
Iberville Parish Council

The new EWS module offers other perks. “Because EWS is web-based, supervisors can log in and approve employee time sheets. They love it because they can do this from their desk instead of coming to my office. I give them a 10:30 a.m. deadline for timesheets, and then I am printing checks and processing direct deposits by 1 p.m. No one can believe how fast it is,” says Distefano.

With the new EWS module, employees can log on and update their own personnel information, check their hours, access year-to-date information, W-2s, and more. “Employees used to show up unexpectedly and ask me to print out paychecks, or a W-2 from a previous year. Now that they can do it themselves, they have quit asking,” Distefano notes.

Security and Options

“I don’t have to input anything twice, thanks to EWS and HR,” says Distefano. “If I enter information once into payroll, it automatically shows up in HR, and vice versa. This saves time and eliminates mistakes.”

She likes the customization and security options as well. “Reports can appear however you want them to. I prefer mine in alphabetical order. Also, you can control who sees what by assigning specific rights to different users, protecting sensitive information,” explains Distefano.

A recent example of this occurred with a student worker last summer. “We wanted him to enter comments to certain employee profiles. We were able to control his access, so he saw only the person’s name and the notes section,” Distefano says.

“Sage 100 Fund Accounting is both powerful and incredibly simple. Everyone here took to it quickly. Employees were calling me to say how great it was. We wouldn’t change it for the world.”

– Virginia Distefano
Payroll Coordinator
Iberville Parish Council

Simple, Easy, and Effective

In addition to saving time and increasing security, Distefano reports that Sage 100 Fund Accounting with the HR and EWS package is also completely hassle-free. “I know that all programs have glitches, but I can honestly say that we have had no problems. None. We’ve been very pleased with the service, the product—everything,” she says.

Distefano concludes with an enthusiastic recommendation. “Sage 100 Fund Accounting is both powerful and incredibly simple. Everyone here took to it quickly. Employees were calling me to say how great it was. We wouldn’t change it for the world. I can’t think of a single reason why someone wouldn’t adopt Sage 100 Fund Accounting after seeing what it can do. I can’t speak highly enough about it.”

About Sage

Sage has been serving nonprofit and governmental organizations throughout North America for more than 30 years. The company helps more than 32,000 unique not-for-profit organizations increase efficiency and more easily manage their operations through the use of technology. From fund accounting, donor and fundraising management, and grant management, to online donation processing, human resources (HR), payroll, and fixed asset management, Sage offers a software product or service to meet the organization’s need. For more information, call 800-811-0961 or visit www.sagenonprofit.com. Follow Sage Nonprofit Solutions on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/SageNonprofit](https://twitter.com/SageNonprofit)) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/sagenonprofit); read the blog (www.sagewords.net); and join the community for not-for-profits (<http://community.sagenonprofit.com>).