

Southeast Community Services, Inc. Turns to FTM for Accounting Expertise and Outsourced Services

When Executive Director Terri Garcia took the helm at Southeast Community Services, Inc., she inherited a list of audit findings that required a response and corrective action.

When she asked for a simple financial report and discovered it would take a week and a half for her request to be fulfilled, she knew that the organization needed accounting assistance.

Nonprofit excellence requires sound accounting practices

Terri Garcia's mentor had taught her the critical importance of efficient accounting practices to the success of a nonprofit. Throughout her career she followed that advice, and understood the advantages that clarity of the financial picture brought to her, her team, and the board.

"Our organization needed a higher level of nonprofit accounting expertise," recalls Garcia. "The problem was I needed CFO level talent, Controller level talent - but only on a part time basis."

"We couldn't ask for anything better. FTM outsourced accounting services give us the consistency we need to operate at the highest level of effectiveness for our constituents."

~Terri Garcia, Executive Director
Southeast Community Services, Inc.

FTM provides the dual benefit of affordability and high level of expertise

Southeast Community Services enlisted Financial Technologies & Management (FTM) to get the financial house in order. "It was a matter of money," states Garcia. "FTM is able to give us the level of accounting support that we need and bring efficiency and timeliness to our reporting and accounting processes."

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Challenges

Much delayed reporting led to delayed claims and reimbursements which affected cash flow; Southeast Community Services required a CFO, Controller, and Accountant expertise - but not in a full-time capacity.

Solution

By outsourcing their accounting to FTM, Southeast Community Services reporting is handled by Abila MIP Fund Accounting. This means they have access to system-generated reporting that is accurate, timely, and quickly distributed to management and the board.

Benefit

Timely and accurate reporting; defined processes and work-flows; more efficient accounting operations; and the ability to help the maximum number of constituents with as many appropriate programs as needed.

Better information means better service for constituents

Equipped with up-to-date and accurate reports thanks to FTM, the team at Southeast Community Services knows whether there is funding available to answer a request for help. "Informed by their program financials, the staff knows what they can and can't do," states Garcia. "And, working with accurate reporting gives us an idea of what areas need additional funding."

Abila MIP Fund Accounting's deep functionality serves the complex needs of Southeast Community Services. Abila MIP Fund Accounting's superior reporting is among the top reasons the software has become the "gold standard" of nonprofit financial reporting. Southeast Community Services enjoy the functionality and feature richness of MIP General Ledger, Accounts Payable, Bank Reconciliation, Budget, and Data Import/Export.

An ongoing relationship between FTM and Southeast Community Services

Since outsourcing the accounting, there's been no looking back. For nine years FTM has served Southeast Community Services. In the meantime, the organization has doubled in size, and focused on its role as a direct service provider, with a holistic approach to multi-generational, bundled services that help families attain self-sufficiency.

About Financial Technologies & Management:

Financial Technologies & Management (FTM) offers financial management for nonprofits. FTM offers the resources to improve nonprofits with nonprofit accounting services, nonprofit accounting software, and financial management training. FTM works exclusively with nonprofit organizations and government agencies. They have helped more than 350 nonprofit organizations by providing solutions to help their internal, community and regulatory needs. Learn more at <http://www.ftmllc.com/>

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About Southeast Community Services

Southeast Community Services was organized in 1972 through Mayor Richard Lugar's office as a consortium of area agencies and neighborhood groups to deliver needed services to the near southeast side of Indianapolis. Originally known as the Southeast Multi-Service Center, the organization shortened its name to Southeast Community Services in 2000. Since its founding in 1972, the Southeast Community Services has been committed to addressing the diverse needs of residents, from youth to seniors. The goal of Southeast Community Services is to help residents lead dignified, fulfilling, and self-sufficient lives through the promotion of financial stability. Learn more at <http://southeastindy.org/>

