

RBP Methods Wins Big With United Cerebral Palsy

SUCCESS STORY

The Challenge

United Cerebral Palsy realized that their DOS-based system was not going to last much longer, let alone provide the tools they needed to grow their organization.

The Solution

RBP implemented a new, streamlined software solution, and a payroll module which allowed UCP to save money and better manage their organization.

The Result

Thanks to their new software system, UCP is saving tens of thousands of dollars each year, allowing them to allocate those resources to the community they serve.



United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) is an advocate for the rights and support of adults with any disability in Oregon and Southwest Washington. Additionally, they are the leading source of information on cerebral palsy. With an array of programs ranging from home care and daily excursions (such as shopping or going to the zoo) to employment assistance and family support, the staff of 135 employees is always there to help.

You may recall a movie that came out in 2002 titled Door to Door. It was about a gentleman in Portland named Bill Porter who had cerebral palsy. At a fairly young age he began a career as a door to door salesman for Watkins, Inc. He was quite successful in the 47 years he worked. His inspiring story reached writers in Hollywood and it became a very touching movie. The great thing about this movie was that it highlighted Mr. Porter's achievements and recognized him as someone who rose above the stereotypes of his illness. This story is a great parallel to what the UCP organization helps their clients do on a daily basis.

Old Systems Lead To Poor Scores

Around the same time the movie came out, UCP was realizing that they were going to need better software tools to

enable them to grow and improve efficiency for the future. They had been using a DOS-based system, which was quickly becoming obsolete, while newer, 16-bit operating systems like Windows 95 & 98 offered better stability. However, the Controller for UCP at the time really loved the DOS system and used it for many aspects of the organization including: donation management, billing, receivables, allocations and fixed assets, all within different programs.

Unfortunately, when she left it was quite a challenge to pull out and organize all of the data stored across the systems. UCP recognized that their DOS system was going to be too complicated for future use, and they really wanted a streamlined platform which would allow them to import data from outside sources.

RBP's New Game Plan

While RBP Methods had been supporting UCP and their software for some time, UCP dutifully asked several different companies for bids when they decided to make a change. They ultimately chose to stay with RBP because of their good working relationship. After discussing their needs, both parties agreed that Sage MIP Fund Accounting, a mid-level system, would suit their requirements and help them

RBP METHODS

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United Cerebral Palsy

www.ucp.org



Company Profile

Type of Business

Private, nonprofit social services agency

Headquarters

Portland, Oregon

Other Information

135 employees

System Profile

Sage MIP Fund Accounting

General Ledger
Accounts Payable
Bank Reconciliation
Data Import
Payroll



prepare for the future. Of the implementation, Kent Arnold, President of RBP Methods recalls, “Everything went very smoothly. The staff members at that time were very receptive to the changes. They were knowledgeable in their key areas and were very helpful in pulling together all the pieces.” With such a positive attitude, RBP and UCP were able to complete the implementation by the deadline without any issues whatsoever. Kent estimates that the new software which includes a general ledger, accounts payable, bank reconciliation, & data import is saving UCP around \$15,000 a year since the implementation.

Everyone Wins with RBP on the Team

Furthermore, last year UCP decided to add a Payroll Module to their system which would allow them to bring this process in-house. Esther Holliday, Finance Director for UCP reflects, “This new addition has saved us over 6 days of work per month!” This adds up to an additional savings of more than \$10,000 a year! And the best part is that the money saved can be allocated to

where it matters most – the people in the community that they serve. Esther concludes, “We have had the pleasure of working with RBP Methods for many years and they have added so much value to our organization. From installing our accounting program to helping us with our payroll process, they have gone above and beyond, exceeding our expectations. What I like most about them is the personal attention they give us. They come in to our office when we need them, show us how our system works from the front to the back end until we are comfortable on our own. They are so friendly and accommodating; we will continue to use them for all of our nonprofit needs.” In the future Esther hopes to add an HR and a scheduling application to further their streamlined success. RBP Methods will be their provider, continuing to make their process and system efficient and effective for all involved.

RBP Methods is a consulting company helping nonprofit and governmental agencies sort through complex technical decisions by providing quality services and products either directly or through our wide network of associated firms. We offer a variety of services for organizations facing technology changes.

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