

## SAGE ACTIVE PLANNER



### CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

#### CUSTOMER

The Resource Center

#### INDUSTRY

Not-for-profit providing services to persons with disabilities throughout Chautauqua County, New York

#### LOCATION

Jamestown, New York

#### Number of Locations

200+

#### SYSTEM

Sage Active Planner

#### Modules in Operation

- Sage MAS 500 Allocations

## The Resource Center Saves Time With Sage Active Planner

Since 1959, The Resource Center has provided a range of support services for the mentally, developmentally, and physically disabled. Like many non-profits, they rely on a number of funding sources including Medicaid reimbursements, government contracts for products, donations, and agency grants. In order to deliver upon its mission, The Resource Center needed to reengineer its budgeting and cost allocation processes. "We had been relying on a cumbersome and time-consuming manual process that did not allow for sophisticated analysis and planning," recalls Joan Scalise, G/L Supervisor.

The Resource Center evaluated and selected Sage Active Planner and Sage MAS 500 Allocations. "What drove our decision were the capabilities of Sage MAS 500 Allocations. We have a very complex method for allocating expenses across 200 cost centers, and we needed a powerful tool to automate the process—from calculating and applying the right basis formulas to creating accurate journal entries," adds Scalise.



#### Streamline Processing

Prior to implementing Sage Active Planner, The Resource Center's annual budget process began in July with the creation of a spreadsheet for each of more than 200 cost centers containing a few years of historical data, the previous year's budget, and actuals and estimates for the current budget year. Then, each departmental manager would input adjustments with the cycle concluding in late December. "We were never certain how accurate the data was, and we were unable to do sophisticated planning and analysis," said Scalise. The previous process for allocating expenses across the agency

#### CHALLENGE

Needed to automate budget and cost allocation processes.

#### SOLUTION

Sage Active Planner, Sage MAS 500 Allocations

#### RESULTS

Improved ability to analyze programs, which enabled The Resource Center to become more competitive for additional funding dollars.



Your business in mind.

*"We have been given back four to five days a month we used to spend re-keying data and manually updating spreadsheets, while increasing the accuracy of our financial reporting. Sage Active Planner is improving our ability to analyze and report on the performance of our many programs, making us more competitive."*

—Joan Scalise  
G/L Supervisor  
The Resource Center

## ABOUT SAGE SOFTWARE

Sage Software has been responding to the needs, challenges, and dreams of small and mid-sized businesses for over 25 years. With a complete range of business management solutions and services, Sage Software helps companies improve customer relationships, reduce costs, and automate and integrate a variety of operational activities. Its solutions support the specialty needs of a broad scope of industry segments, including manufacturing, distribution, construction, real estate, nonprofit, and professional services.



was also complex, consuming many days each month of manual data entry and re-keying. "It is important that we base allocations on non-financial data—those factors that drive our business, and help us compare and measure different programs with different characteristics," explains Scalise.

### **An Integrated, Flexible Solution**

With Sage Active Planner, linked budget plan sheets are created for each cost center, simplifying revisions, consolidations, and analysis. Both Sage Active Planner and Sage MAS 500 Allocations are tightly integrated with the general ledger, which ensures data accuracy. "Instead of allocating expenses based on best-guess calculations at the beginning of the year, we're now able to adjust allocations monthly, for a much more accurate picture of performance."

### **Improved Efficiency and Control**

The budget and forecasting process is highly interactive by nature. It is important to create a system for flexible, timely information gathering, reporting, and analysis for the organization. "One of our goals is to provide monthly budget statements to each of our 35 to 40 departmental managers by mid-month," explains Scalise. "Our new automated budgeting and allocations process cuts almost a full week out of our close process each month. Now more than ever as a non-profit, close budget control is critical in reporting to a variety of oversight agencies and constituencies. Sage Software is improving our ability to analyze and report on the performance of our many programs, making us more competitive with other agencies for tight State budget dollars," says Scalise.