



# KIDNEY FOUNDATION OF CANADA

## DELIVERING COST SAVING SOLUTIONS TO HELP DRIVE EFFICIENCY



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The Kidney Foundation of Canada is a nationwide organization dedicated to funding research, providing education and support, and increasing public awareness to promote kidney health and organ donation. With one national office, 10 branches across Canada, and complex financial reporting requirements, The Kidney Foundation turns to Sage 300 ERP and BAASS to keep the organization's accounting operation strong.

### **Built on a Strong Foundation**

The Kidney Foundation of Canada began using Sage 300 ERP several years ago. At that time, each branch had its own server and ran a stand-alone version of the software. While Sage 300 proved to be an ideal financial solution for the organization, the distributed processing made consolidated financial reporting difficult. Kathy Mavrakis, National Director of Finance and

Administration for the Foundation, explains, "We wanted one solution nationwide, but with each branch operating independently, we had differing charts of accounts, and varying methods for setting up vendors, funds, and reports." Mavrakis made it her mission to bring the branches together, operating under a single installation of the software, simplifying and streamlining the entire operation. For assistance, Mavrakis turned to BAASS. "The consulting team is simply excellent," she says.

"In addition to a complete knowledge of the software, our BAASS consultants understand accounting – this proved to be invaluable to us."

### **Consolidate for Efficiency**

First, BAASS installed Sage 300 ERP on a single, powerful server, accessible over a secure wide-area network by each of the branches. Next, BAASS

implemented additional Sage 300 ERP modules to simplify intracompany transactions, speed financial reporting, and help track the Foundation's inventory of publications. Previously, Mavrakis had to manually consolidate several reports into a single statement to present to the Foundation's auditors. "We didn't have the capability to produce the reports easily," she recalls. "As a result we spent a tremendous amount of time on the procedure." Now, the Foundation is producing combined financial statements on a monthly basis with very little effort. "BAASS helped design precisely the reports we need, and we produce them right from Sage 300 ERP," Mavrakis says. "Now we have the time for value-added analysis and can offer management meaning and insight behind the numbers that we simply didn't have time for before."

## **Facilitate Informed Decision Making**

Armed with current, relevant, accurate, and complete data concerning its entire organization, The Kidney Foundation of Canada is able to make informed, strategic decisions about its operations and direction.

"Financial information even a day later is a day too late, as it focuses on history and we are already in the present making decisions about the future," Mavrakis adds. "With the timely numbers we're getting now we are able to review, and focus our efforts to meet targets." BAASS introduced the Foundation to Sage Insight. Insight is an enterprisewide reporting, budgeting, and consolidations application. It allows the Foundation's staff to quickly capture and integrate information into meaningful reports and securely distribute them across the entire enterprise on demand. "Insight is a great reporting tool," says Mavrakis. "We recently completed our first budget cycle with it in place. It made all the difference."

## **Driving Efficiency**

The efficiency gains are saving The Kidney Foundation of Canada money. By deploying a centralized server, The Kidney Foundation has eliminated much of the IT burden from its branches, and is realizing a significant savings. "We don't have to purchase software for each branch, and maintain, upgrade, and backup the

separate servers," explains Mavrakis. "It is a much more efficient way of operating." Mavrakis continues, "We've also created a centre of excellence with cross-training and eliminated the need for the finance team across the country to set up, close and prepare for month ends, budgets, and forecasts. In addition, we have complete control over the structure and can ensure that consistency is continuing as we expand and grow."

## **Streamline Process**

The intracompany transaction capabilities of Sage 300 ERP vastly simplify the processing of transactions between The Kidney Foundation's various branches. Intracompany journal entries and payable invoices, debit notes, and credit notes are easily entered and the clear audit trail and informative reports make reconciliation effortless. "With the help of BAASS, we are more proactive. We are able to build benchmarks, set standards, perform comparisons, and streamline our operations," concludes Paul Shay, National Executive Director of The Kidney Foundation of Canada. "This is essential for us as it enables us to focus our efforts and resources on our mission of helping to reduce the burden of kidney disease."



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