

Success story

Empowering through ERP



The challenge

An expansive territory, such as that of the Sterling Park District, requires an extensive and accurate administrative system to manage its employees, facilities, and activities. Sage 300 ERP provided Sterling with the necessary capabilities; however, Sterling's previous software did not equip them with the necessary tools to run the program efficiently.



The solution

Sterling chose BAASS as their new solution provider due to their expertise in fund accounting and Sage 300 ERP, leading to comprehensive training that empowered Sterling to independently manage their system, import GL entries efficiently, and create compliant financial reports for nonprofits.



The result

BAASS enhanced Sterling's operational efficiency by implementing an account code change utility, a direct deposit system, and the Sierra Workforce Solution, which replaced their outdated time clock system with an integrated solution that streamlined payroll processing, saving significant time and money and allowing Sterling to focus on their organizational needs.

“BAASS continually allows us to be more efficient because of their knowledge transfer of not only our system but our nonprofit requirements.”



Organization
Sterling Park District
Location
HQ - Sterling, Illinois
Industry
Not-for-Profit Industry
Sage Partner
BAASS Business Solutions



Sterling Park District

The Sterling Park District, committed to maintaining and developing a creative and efficient park, recreation, and natural resource system, plays a crucial role in the well-being of the surrounding community. Its five facilities and fifteen parks provide the public with a safe and beautiful place to live, work, and play. The Duis Recreation Center, which offers an indoor pool and gymnastics area, and the Westwood Fitness & Sports Center, the district's largest facility containing indoor and outdoor courts, remain the recreating staples in Sterling, Illinois.



The Sterling Park District, committed to maintaining and developing a creative and efficient park, recreation, and natural resource system, plays a crucial role in the well-being of the surrounding community. Its five facilities and fifteen parks provide the public with a safe and beautiful place to live, work, and play. The Duis Recreation Center, which offers an indoor pool and gymnastics area, and the Westwood Fitness & Sports Center, the district's largest facility containing indoor and outdoor courts, remain the recreation staples in Sterling, Illinois.

Leveling the Playing Field with a New Software Provider

An expansive territory such as that of the Sterling Park District's requires an extensive and accurate administrative system to manage its employees, facilities, and activities. Sage 300 ERP provided Sterling with the necessary capabilities; however, Sterling's previous software provider did not equip them with the necessary tools to run the program efficiently. "Our biggest concern was having a solution provider that could help us become more efficient and someone who understood nonprofit accounting," comments Jana Jacobs, Business Manager for Sterling. "We were having problems getting the right financial reports as our previous solution provider did not understand the needs of a nonprofit and how to use our system to meet our specific reporting requirements. We had never been given the keys to our own software and were forced to rely solely on our previous consultant to run it."

Structural Improvements Bring Efficiency

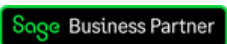
Sterling set out on a search for a new solution provider and was referred to BAASS by a colleague they trusted within the software industry. Impressed with BAASS' knowledge of fund accounting and Sage 300 ERP, Sterling engaged BAASS. "The overall goal was to educate Sterling on how they could best use their system", comments Dave Yurik, Solution Specialist of BAASS Business Solutions Inc.

"We wanted to teach them as such as they wanted to learn so they could be self-sufficient." Tony Chiodo, Partner at BAASS Chicago offices adds, "Our service philosophy is to empower our clients, and with Sterling it was no different. We provided training on each process, enabling them to manage and operate their system independently." BAASS demonstrated to Sterling how to import GL entries from their specialized revenue system, saving a substantial amount of time and reducing data-entry errors.

BAASS also trained the Sterling team how to maintain and create their financial reports specific to nonprofits in order to comply the applicable Federal and State reporting standards they are required to meet. This also allowed them to analyze their business in a more timely manner.

"BAASS continually allows us to be more efficient because of their knowledge transfer of not only our system but our nonprofit requirements," comments Jana. "Working with them has allowed us to focus more on our organization. Through implementation of new products recommended by BAASS, including an account code change utility and the implementation of direct deposit system, Sterling realized a significant savings of time and money. Another way BAASS helped Sterling increase operational efficiency was through the implementation and integration of the Sierra Workforce Solution.

Tony explains, Sterling Park District was working with an antiquated time clock system for multiple locations, which created a lot of manual effort in order to capture time and process payroll. With Sierra, we were able to connect all their separate locations with an integrated time clock system that further integrated with Sage 300 ERP's payroll module. Jana comments, "BAASS exceeded our expectations when implementing the time clock system for us. From understanding our business requirements, through an effective system design, to a smooth and quick implementation, BAASS delivered superior service. As a result we reduced the amount of time spent on payroll processing by four work days per month, which is a huge savings!





The Process Achieves Lasting Results

Sterling is grateful for BAASS' expertise and dedication to its clients. BAASS' thorough attention and support resulted in helping Sterling get the fastest and highest possible return on their software investment. Due to the time and money saved through BAASS' work, Sterling is now able to focus on more pressing matters within the organization. Jana praises BAASS for their standout service by saying, "The customer service is just wonderful. Their attention to detail, responsiveness and solid understanding of our organizational needs is impressive and we are so thankful to have found them."

