

EBOOK

# The Benefits of Cloud Accounting Software for Community Development Organizations

*Nonprofit*



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2. **Cloud Computing:** Why community development organizations are moving financial management to the cloud
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## Nonprofit accounting in the modern era

*You don't change accounting systems often.*

However, as your organization grows in size and complexity, you reach a point where manual, time-consuming processes drain your productivity, and flying blind without real-time visibility into key metrics and outcomes is stifling growth. As a good steward, you need a system that leverages the latest technology advancements.

At a minimum, a modern accounting system should automate and streamline core financial management functions such as Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, and Financial Close. But you can hardly fuel your growth and need for accountability and transparency by simply automating the minimum. Community development organizations have accounting, tracking, and reporting needs that require specialized functionality in their systems.

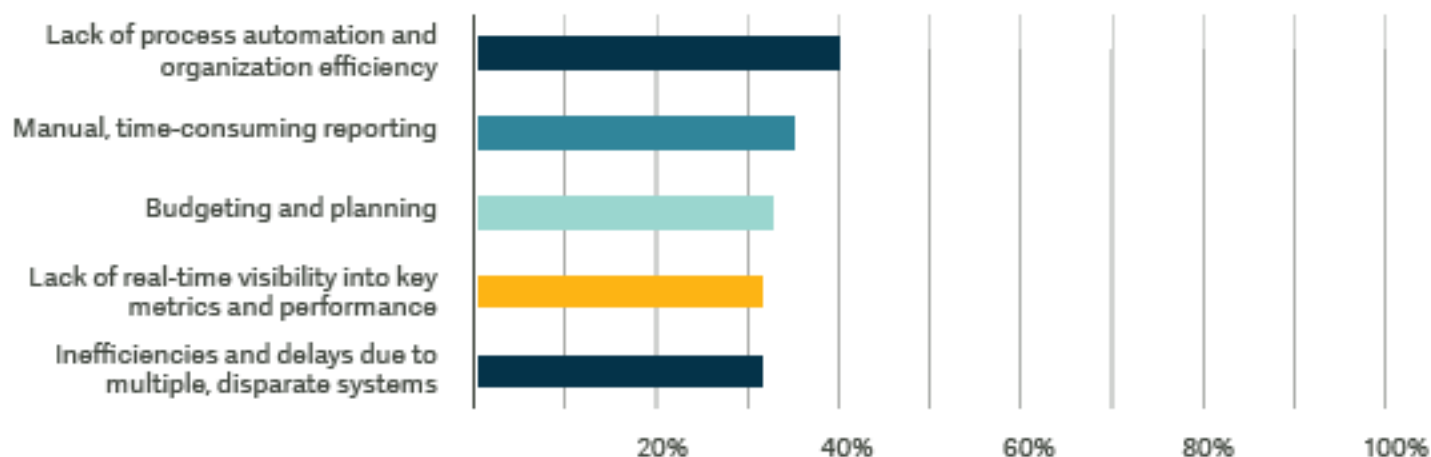
Today, inflexible, inefficient, and outdated on-premises software is rapidly being replaced by a new breed of modern cloud solutions. Over 90 percent of businesses report using cloud solutions today, and nonprofits are no exception.<sup>1</sup>

### The pains of dated technology

*In addition to external pressures like increased competition for funding, economic shifts creating more demand for services, and government regulations, challenges with internal processes and technology are also creating barriers to mission success.*

In a recent survey conducted by Sage Intacct<sup>2</sup>, nonprofit finance leaders shared the internal frustrations that were serious barriers to mission impact. Lack of process automation and organization efficiency is the number one frustration for the third year in a row. Many organizations are still doing things “the way they’ve always been done,” leading to inefficient home-grown systems, workarounds, and heavy paper-based processes.

#### The Top Five Internal Frustrations of Nonprofit Finance Leaders



## Five reasons the cloud is right for community development organizations

1

**You only pay for what you use**

No more complex and costly IT infrastructure

2

**Your data is safe in the cloud**

Skilled cybersecurity engineers use sophisticated software to watch over data centers

3

**It supports a mobile workforce**

Staff and volunteers can access the system anytime and anywhere

4

**You're always using the latest version**

No more outdated software and painful upgrades

5

**Integrated solutions for nonprofits**

Open APIs let you utilize best-in-class apps (CRMs like Salesforce, billing, payroll, budget, etc.)



# Sage Intacct for Nonprofits

## *The AICPA's preferred provider of cloud financial applications*

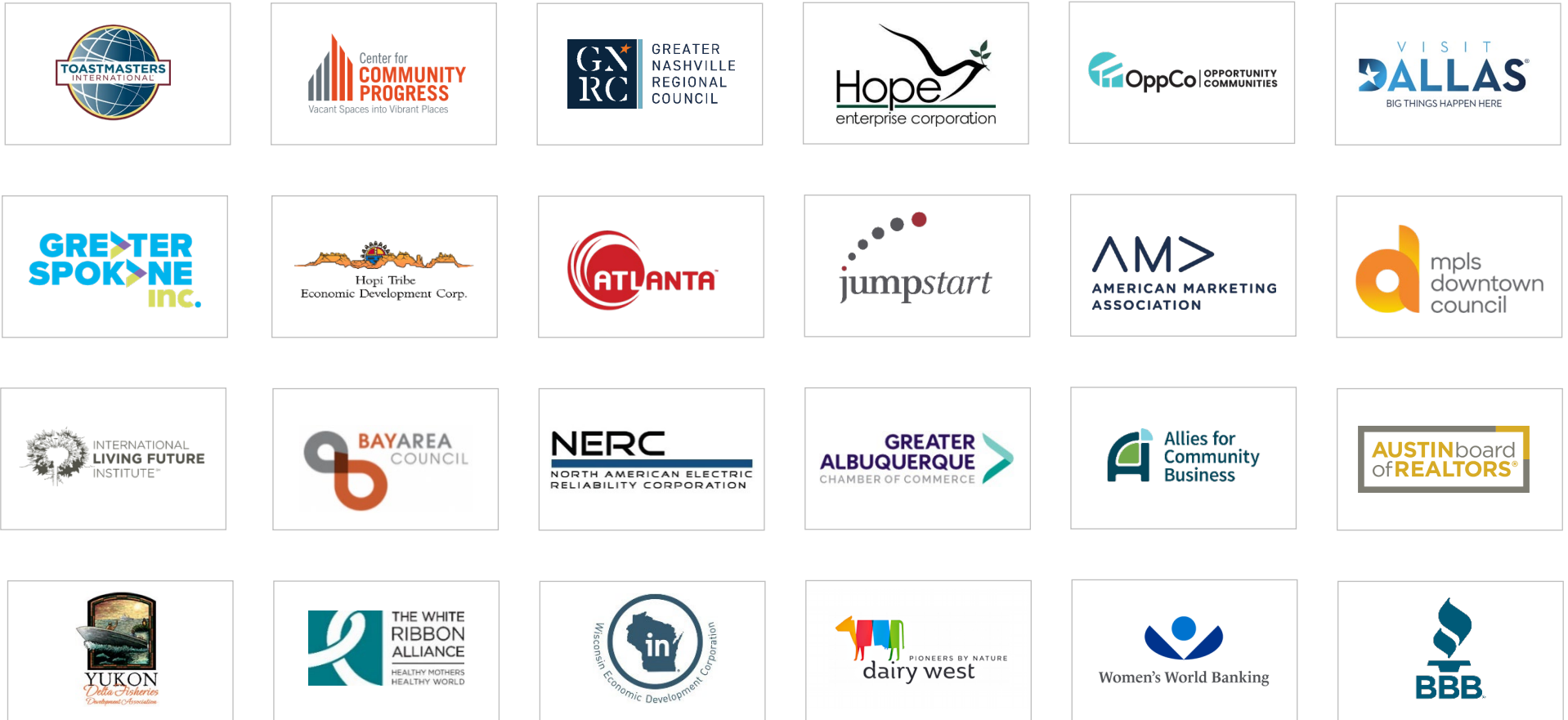
Specializing in helping nonprofits of all types including community development and capacity building organizations, NGOs, health and human services, education, charities, cultural institutions, faith-based organizations, and others, Sage Intacct streamlines grant, fund, project, and donor accounting, while delivering real-time visibility into the metrics that matter.

Our modern, true cloud solution, with open APIs, gives nonprofits the connectivity, visibility, and efficiency they need to do more with less. At Sage Intacct, we help nonprofits strengthen stewardship, build influence, grow funding, and achieve mission success.



# Community development organizations rely on Sage Intacct

*Sage Intacct is rated #1 for customer satisfaction by G2<sup>3</sup>.*



### Why community development organizations love Sage Intacct

- **Delivers immediate visibility** into your financial data with easy-to-use, real-time financial and operational reporting and dashboards.
- **Ensures control and compliance** and reduces risk and cost with automated workflow and internal controls.
- **Maximizes stewardship** by automating grant, fund, and donor accounting.
- **Streamlines reporting and compliance** using built-in nonprofit-specific reports and FASB and IRS compliant financial statements.
- **Provides anytime, anywhere access** for staff and volunteers, increasing finance department productivity by 30% or more.
- **Reduces IT infrastructure** costs and complexity.
- **Integrates seamlessly** with other critical business applications via an open API.







## Empower the modern accounting team

*Sage Intacct makes your team more effective and efficient from day one.*

With Sage Intacct, you can create tailored dashboards and reports—on the spot—that are relevant to your organization's specific mission and operational measures.

Plus, you can do your job from any browser and any device with confidence. This also allows you to easily provide views to non-finance personnel including the executive team, finance committee, and other key stakeholders within your organization that require insight for decision making, including full drill-down capability to source documents.

You can also empower non-finance personnel to initiate finance department interactions such as expense requests, check requests, purchase requisitions, budget to actual, and more with flexible electronic workflows, easy-coding rules, and anywhere access.

## Real-time visibility allows HTEDC to make three entities solvent

*“With Sage Intacct, our general managers and department heads hold greater accountability, because management can quickly pinpoint areas of financial concern and have accurate information with which to make better business decisions. As a result, three of our struggling entities moved into the black, our overall gross margins improved by 20%, cash flow increased by nearly half a million dollars, and our real estate asset values grew by over \$5 million.”*



Larry Chank  
Chief Financial Officer





## Gain real-time operational and financial visibility

*The days of flying blind with no real-time reporting and visibility are over.*

Sage Intacct provides a rich, multi-dimensional, multi-ledger system that enables you to easily capture granular financial and operational data in exactly the same way that you manage your organization.

Gain real-time visibility into every aspect of your organization's finances; whether you're interested in which funds were used for each project, the performance of your organization by location or team, the expense tied to each volunteer or employee, or any other aspect unique to your organization.

Sage Intacct's role-based dashboards and rich reporting and analytics make it easy to keep a pulse on the financial health of your organization, as well as the health of individual projects, and to accurately budget for the months ahead. Sage Intacct automatically keeps your sub-ledgers and your general ledger synchronized in real-time, so you always have instant access to summaries and balances as well as transaction details.



## Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau increases business agility through multi-dimensional visibility

*“One of my favorite things about Sage Intacct is the ability to easily create custom reports on my own. Now, I’m able to provide reports more quickly and be a true champion within the organization. With just a bit of simple configuration, I can tailor the data to track whatever business drivers matter most and deliver more meaningful visibility through things like Sage Intacct Performance Cards that visualize important trends in a quick and intuitive way.”*



Braam du Plooy  
Controller



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### Master multi-entity, multi-location, and multi-currency management

*Your organization is complex, but your system doesn't have to be.*

Whether your organization provides consulting, job training or public education; economic, community or neighborhood development; operates service clubs; or strengthens communities in other ways with one location or several, Sage Intacct automates multi-entity, multi-site, multi-currency, and multi-country operations.

Streamline inter-entity transactions, allocations, eliminations, and financial consolidation, reporting, and analysis with extensive built-in automation and one-click consolidations.

Take advantage of deep support for global nonprofits with automatic multi-currency transactions and reporting. Plus, you can store, manage, and report any data in multiple currencies.



## White Ribbon Alliance searches for multi-entity, multi-currency cloud financial application

*“As a global organization with different entities in the United States, United Kingdom, Nigeria, and Tanzania, QuickBooks and Excel were no longer meeting our needs when it came to international operations, reporting, or remote access for our distributed workforce. Sage Intacct’s cloud-based system ended up as a clear choice because of its impressive multi-entity and multi-currency capabilities.”*



Celine Okoh  
Chief Financial Officer



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### Infuse flexibility and automation

***Your system should work the way you do, not the other way around.***

Sage Intacct allows configurable design to bring flexibility and automation to your organization's operational workflow processes, and tracking and reporting toolsets, making compliance an 'of course' and freeing up time to focus on strategic financial management.

As your organization evolves, financial operations need to keep pace with transaction tracking procedures, internal controls, and reporting views that support the current and future organizational needs.

Designed to evolve with your organization, Sage Intacct's flexible and configurable architecture can be adapted to the tracking, electronic approvals, and workflow requirements for your operational structure and provide insights to best support your mission now and in the future.



## JumpStart increases efficiency by 30% enabling them to effortlessly scale

*“Although our revenue budget has grown 60% since we implemented Sage Intacct, our finance staff only grew 25%. We’ve seen an overall efficiency improvement of 30% through automated workflows and fewer incoming questions since everyone has timely, accurate financial information via their personalized Sage Intacct dashboards.”*



Karen Adame  
Chief Financial Officer



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### Simplify grant, fund, and project accounting

*Running reports tailored to each funder's requirements shouldn't be hard.*

No two funding sources are alike, creating extraordinary complexity in nonprofit accounting. From revenue recognition to reporting, Sage Intacct makes it easy to measure the effectiveness of your organization's programs and demonstrate your financial responsibility to partners, vendors, grantors, and others.

Sage Intacct features robust fund, grant, and donor accounting, flexible budgeting and planning, real-time reporting, and role-based dashboards.

Engage employees, volunteers, and partners in your financial processes with built-in expense management, time and billing, and purchasing applications—saving hundreds of hours of staff time every year. You'll also save hours every month and eliminate errors by getting rid of spreadsheets to calculate allocations.

## Center for Community Progress increases donor funding with 25% efficiency improvement

*“One of the most important benefits we’ve enjoyed with Sage Intacct—and something every nonprofit can benefit from—is the ability to better manage our funding. With reliable, timely reports, we’re able to demonstrate how efficiently we use each donor’s funding to advance our mission while cutting our project administration time by 25%. The greatest impact Sage Intacct makes is freeing up more time to achieve our mission.”*



Brian Flood  
Director of Finance and Administration



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## Strengthen your organization with best-in-class solutions

*Gain peace of mind with seamless third-party business application integrations.*

At Sage Intacct, we pride ourselves on being the best cloud financial management solution on the market. That's all we do. And we believe you should have the freedom to choose the best solutions for all the other areas of your organization. That's why we partner with more than 200 software solution providers—enabling you to streamline processes by connecting Sage Intacct with payroll, budgeting, CRMs, and many more specialized applications.

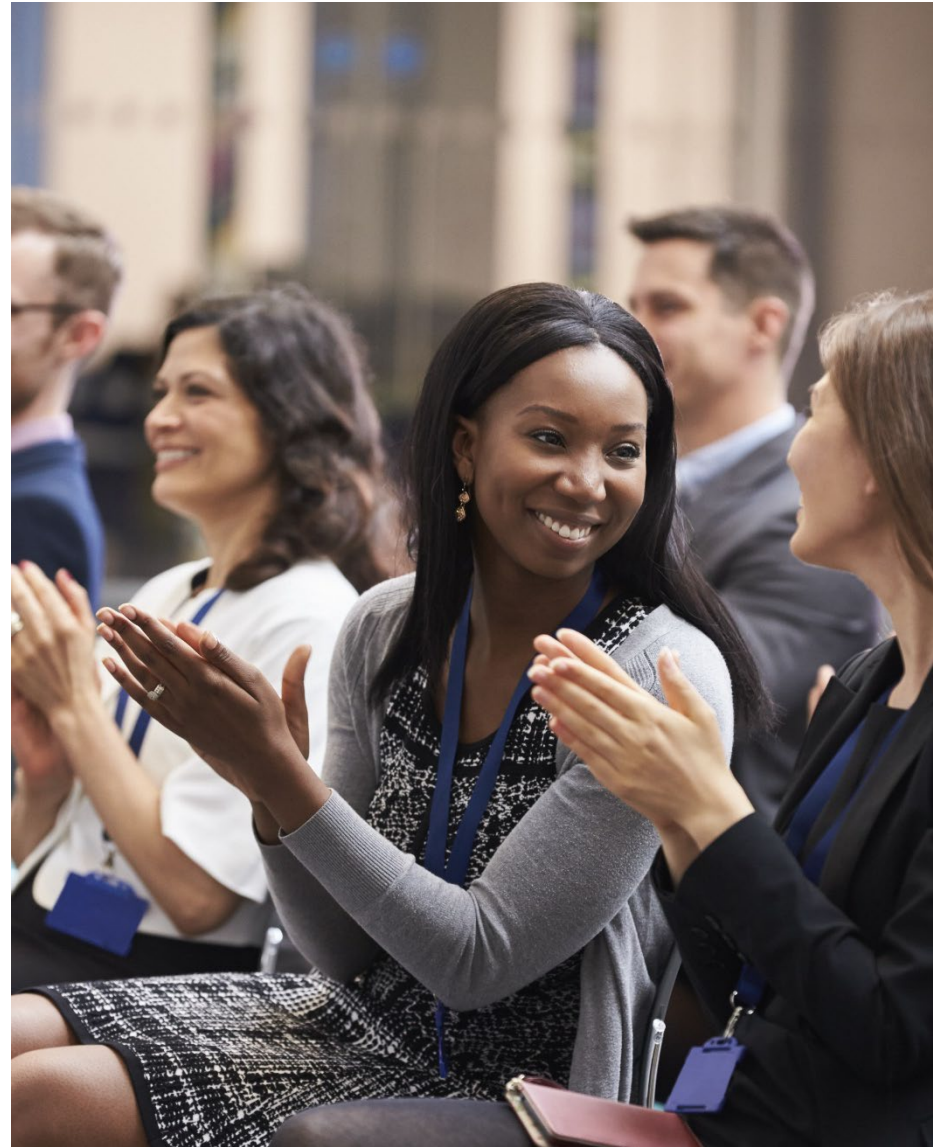
Sage Intacct's open API and true cloud integration strategy allows for easy, intuitive imports or seamless integration via web services. This ensures that your finance team stays current with modern processing and reporting insights for your management team by harnessing technology to work smarter.

## American Marketing Association improves member service delivery by integrating its financials with Salesforce

*“Now that Sage Intacct and Salesforce are completely integrated, we can see data accumulating throughout the month. For example, every time a membership is purchased on our website, it integrates to Sage Intacct immediately. We keep an eye on how much we spend on overhead versus delivering programs. The less we spend running the back of the shop, the more money we have to deliver value to our members.”*



Jeremy Van Ek  
Chief Operational Officer



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### Accelerate your mission with Sage Intacct

*“Do more with less” is the mantra of today.*

Sage Intacct can help you accomplish your mission by providing you the visibility, flexibility, efficiency, automation, and integration your human services organization needs to succeed.

Replacing and updating your old accounting solution with a modern, best-in-class cloud solution built for nonprofit organizations can cost less than you think—while saving you time and resources.

We can help you prepare an ROI analysis for your key stakeholders and discover how you can lead your organization to better stewardship and greater impact.

Our mission is to help you succeed with your mission.



## Educational resources to help you make the right decision



Sage Intacct for Community Development Organizations Overview Video

[Watch now](#)



Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau Customer Story Video

[Watch now](#)



Browse All Nonprofit Community Development Resources

[Browse now](#)





## Sage Intacct

### Sage Intacct is the AICPA's preferred provider of cloud financial applications

Specializing in helping nonprofits and faith-based organizations of all types, Sage Intacct's modern solution and open APIs streamlines grant, fund, project, and donor accounting—while delivering real-time visibility into the metrics that matter. At Sage Intacct, we help nonprofits strengthen stewardship, build influence, grow funding, and achieve mission success.

For more information, visit: [www.sageintacct.com/nonprofit](https://www.sageintacct.com/nonprofit)





- <sup>1</sup> [2012 Global Cloud Computing Survey Results](#), TechSoup Global
- <sup>2</sup> [2022 Nonprofit Technology Trends Report](#), Sage Intacct
- <sup>3</sup> [G2 Grid Report for Nonprofit Accounting](#)