

When **Special Olympics Tennessee (SOTN)** joined Chazin & Company in May 2018, they were facing many challenges:

- Transitioning of top leadership after the retirement of their CEO and a new Board Treasurer.
- Long-time Director of Finance had resigned.
- The Accounting software was obsolete and required a full system upgrade.
- A separate application was being used for payroll processing, with adequate reporting, resulting in several issues with payroll accuracy and timeliness. They were behind in closing the later months of the 2017 fiscal year.
- The smaller local Area teams, supported by the State organization, were unable to receive prompt and accurate reports throughout the year.

Chazin & Company partnered with SOTN to address these challenges. Our nonprofit accounting expertise allowed us to implement processes, controls, and efficiencies, and a new accounting application. Sage Intacct was able to deftly handle the multiple related entities and automate reporting, so all entities receive prompt and accurate financial information. The new software application and processes enabled a streamlining of audit preparation.

Sage Intacct dramatically improved the organization and segregation of information and eliminated the need for manual report building.

SOTN wanted to ensure that their long-time accounting assistant would remain a part of the overall financial solution. Chazin & Company was able to step in and complement her abilities and institutional knowledge while implementing efficiencies. She was trained on the new systems, which allowed her to process transactions while also reviewing historical data and examining it for accuracy. This assistant is now a manager four years later and is thriving due to her increased skills and value.

Currently, the related-entity (Areas) accounting is automated, and reports are emailed monthly to area management the following month-end close. Insight into funds availability and actual vs budget are readily available for use in timely decision-making, allowing SOTN to focus their energy on mission.

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The team at Chazin & Company has always been responsive and knowledgeable. They focused on producing the dashboard and reports we need to effectively run the organization. They also train our team as needed on the Sage Intacct accounting software. Their work is always done efficiently and accurately resulting in transparent and easy to read financial statements.”

Adam Germek,
President and CEO of
SOTN

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Since we began working with Chazin & Company, there have been drastic improvements in the accuracy of our bookkeeping, the efficiency of the processes we now use, and even our audit process has been greatly improved.”

John Guzzardo,
President & CEO of
SOLA

When **Special Olympics Louisiana (SOLA)** joined Chazin & Company in September 2018, they were also facing many challenges:

- New leadership after the previous Executive Director retired.
- Long-time Director of Finance left the organization.
- Obsolete accounting software requiring a full system upgrade. Records were all paper-based and badly organized.
- Payroll processing was done by a local firm, resulting in several issues with payroll accuracy and timeliness.
- Relations with auditors were strained due to missed deadlines and lack of cooperation in preparing required schedules and sample backups.
- The smaller local Area teams, supported by the State organization, were unable to receive prompt and accurate reports throughout the year.

Chazin & Company partnered with SOLA to address the specific challenges and to implement an overall solution to reduce cost by adding efficiencies and controls. Sage Intacct was utilized to streamline the chart of accounts and to establish a departmental structure to support reporting at various levels of the organization. Coding of transactions was simplified, decreasing the error rate and the accuracy of reports.

As the solution matured, we were able to utilize internal SOLA administrative and programmatic resources to perform certain tasks best done onsite such as recording bank deposits, coding vendor invoices, employee setup, and changes in the payroll system. This allowed for efficiencies and a less expensive overall solution for the organization. We collaborated in writing position descriptions to support hiring multi-responsibility personnel who could assist in the accounting solution.