DOORWAYS FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES

Managed IT Services

Background and Challenges

Doorways for Women and Families (Doorways) works to create pathways out of domestic violence and homelessness.

Doorways' operations are overseen by volunteer board members and a small internal staff. Without a full-time IT staff member, Doorways encountered these challenges:

> Doorways' staff needed to email large files, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and PDF documents, to the board members before and after board meetings, which made the process inefficient and put tremendous pressure on the email server.

> Emailing large packets of files created more possibilities of error or missed information.

> They were not able to assign access permission to specific users via email.

Solutions

ATS worked with Doorways to assess its IT environment, evaluate multiple cloud-based file sharing solutions, and recommend SharePoint Online as a user-friendly, cost-effective option to replace email file sharing.

ATS carried out the initial setup to:

- > Provision the main SharePoint team site;
- > Configure permissions giving central Doorways staff admin access to the site;

 > Create libraries and sub-sites in
 SharePoint Online to provide a logical way to store documents; and

Share site access with board members, allowing them to log in, share infomation, and collaborate.

ATS will also implement directory synchronization and multi-factor authentication to help enhance security for Doorways' SharePoint site.

Results

The SharePoint implementation brought Doorways:

> An intuitive and easy-to-manage file sharing and collaboration platform;

> A more efficient and organized way of communications;

> A flexible cloud environment that allows Doorways to make adjustments and improvements before fully moving the entire operations to the cloud;

- > Positive feedback and increased collaboration between users; and
- > Reduced physical infrastructure footprint, which facilitates time and cost savings.

Doorways is continuing to push higher user adoption, provide logical access to multiple shared folders for increased collaboration, and transition its entire staff to SharePoint. In the long-run, Doorways looks to become a completely virtual organization.

SOLUTION HIGHLIGHTS

Service: Managed IT Services

Industry:

Nonprofit

Solutions:

- Cloud-Readiness
 Assessment
- Cloud-Based File Sharing
 Solution Recommendation
- Cloud Migration

Technologies Used:

- Microsoft Office 365
- SharePoint Online

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