

The Holden Arboretum Manages Donor Contributions and Demonstrates Accountability with Fast, Flexible Reporting in The Financial Edge™



Covering 3,600 acres, The Holden Arboretum is among the largest arboreta in the United States. Documenting more than 120,000 plants, Holden's horticultural focus is on recognized collections of trees and shrubs, which are displayed in gardens accompanied by groundcovers and perennials, and in themed collections. Holden collects and displays a diversity of plants and trees for evaluation and educational purposes, in order to convey sustainable plant choices recommended for the region. A visitor center, reference library and picnic area are on the grounds.

Challenge

The Holden Arboretum had been using an accounting application that was no longer going to be supported.

Additionally, the solution was not designed for nonprofits creating extra work for the finance team that had to pull data from the system and export to Excel in order to create the necessary reports.

Donations received in support of a specific project would have to go into a general pool and be set as a restricted fund.

Solution

Holden switched to Blackbaud's **The Financial Edge™**. The Financial Edge was designed specifically for nonprofits and integrates with the organization's donor database, **The Raiser's Edge®**.

With The Financial Edge, Holden is able to set up projects and track income and expense for each project and department.

The fast, flexible out-of-the-box reporting available in The Financial Edge gives Holden the level of detail and financial transparency to prove appropriate use of funds and better determine potential costs associated with projects.

Results

Because Holden no longer has to utilize Excel for its financial reporting needs, the finance team has saved a significant amount of time.

Holden has also been able to ensure consistent and more accurate data between the development department and finance reporting.

The level of detail available to Holden in The Financial Edge has enabled the development team to make more appropriate asks for specific projects.



“The Financial Edge, because it is specifically designed for nonprofits, is phenomenal. We are able to report by cost center, project, or grant. Ultimately, The Financial Edge gives us the ability to identify and track specific donor gifts, any gift restrictions, and generate reports on how the funds were spent.”

— Michelle Miller
Accounting Manager
The Holden Arboretum