

Serving the Organizations that Serve the Hungry

Overview

The Los Angeles Regional Foodbank is a nonprofit charitable organization that has been serving the disadvantaged in LA since 1973. The 90-employee organization is at the heart of food distribution network that includes more than 900 charitable agency sites in Los Angeles County. For every dollar the Foodbank receives it can distribute enough food for four meals.

The Challenge

An Influx of Spyware

Protecting their network shouldn't have come at the expense of people and organizations who rely on the LA Foodbank for badly needed services and supplies, but that's exactly what was happening. Without a Web content filtering system in place, websites with adware and spyware were frequently being loaded on the LA Regional Foodbank's network, infecting their 75 workstations and slowing down productivity.

A Constant Headache for IT Staff

Spyware and adware created a burden for system administrators and pulled them away from other, more important projects. Without a Web content filtering service, the LA Regional Foodbank IT staff wasn't able to stop spyware before it infected network computers; they were only able to remove it once it was already installed. Even with Symantec Endpoint Protection working as an anti-virus, their network wasn't running as it should.

They needed a solution that would block websites that loaded spyware, adware and other viruses onto the machines of LA Foodbank employees — but one that wouldn't either take constant employee attention, or require a large upfront investment. That ruled out expensive appliance-based options, or alternatives that required constant monitoring or upgrades.

The Solution

"The cost and simplicity made us choose OpenDNS," said Weldon Wu, the LA Regional Foodbank's CIO. "There was no large upfront cost, maintenance requiring staff time, and minimal learning curve with SaaS." After trialing OpenDNS Basic, the organization chose to deploy OpenDNS Professional. Once OpenDNS Professional was set up on the LA Regional Foodbank's network, the LA Regional Foodbank was protected from Malware and Botnet attacks, and all websites with spyware were filtered — before they were ever loaded onto an employee's computer. The entire OpenDNS deployment took just minutes.

How It Works

OpenDNS offers 57+ categories to choose from for Web content filtering. Each category is made of up websites that have been submitted to the OpenDNS Domain Tagging system; more than 10 million domains have been submitted and tagged by the OpenDNS community. The Adware category — which covers spyware — is just one of the categories of content that's easily blockable with OpenDNS.

Saving Valuable Staff Time

The result is a drastic reduction in the amount of spyware that has appeared on the network. Prior to deploying OpenDNS, the organization's system administrators were spending an average of two hours per week removing spyware from computers. Today, this number has dropped to zero, meaning the IT staff at the LA Regional Foodbank has reclaimed more than two weeks of time annually (104 hours) to devote elsewhere.

"This has freed up valuable time for our system administrator to work on other projects," said Wu.

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL



Website: www.lafoodbank.org
Industry: Nonprofit organization

The Challenge

An Influx of spyware was slowing down the LA Regional Foodbank's network, and taking up valuable system administrator time.

The Solution

Deploying OpenDNS Professional and choosing to filter for Adware helped IT staff save more than 100 hours of staff time per year.

OpenDNS Professional & Nonprofits

Every dollar needs to go further when it comes to nonprofit organizations. With OpenDNS Professional, there's no appliance to purchase, costly maintenance fees or cumbersome and drawn out deployments. And because it's managed from the cloud, OpenDNS Professional scales seamlessly, from one location to hundreds — with no additional charges.

Other nonprofits who have chosen

OpenDNS Professional:

Salvation Army
Jazz at Lincoln Center
American Center for Progress

Learn more about special pricing available on OpenDNS Professional for nonprofits:
<https://store.opendns.com/contact/sales/enterprise>

