Case Study

Enhanced Security Measures
Comprehensive Security For Calhoun County

Located in Northwest Iowa, Calhoun County is home to just under 10,000 people. Calhoun County operates multiple offices, including Assessor, Treasurer, and Auditor. As cybersecurity threats continue to rise, small towns and county offices across the US have seen a substantial increase in the number of targeted cyber-attacks they face on any given day. Calhoun County noticed this trend and believed that it was of the utmost importance to enhance their existing security measures.

Given the small size of Calhoun County, they needed a high-quality solution that wouldn't put a strain on their budget. RDI has been able to successfully identify their needs and implement solutions to best support Calhoun County's security practices as well.

The Challenge

With multiple county offices, there is an increased risk that a cyber attack could compromise the security and public services that the courthouse offers. An attack can also remove staff access to important data files and completely shut down IT infrastructure, posing major implications on daily operations. And on top of that, if the Emergency Response Services were attacked, it could directly put citizens in danger if critical operations are rendered inaccessible.

With cybersecurity on the forefront of Calhoun's priorities, they wanted to protect the most commonly attacked areas that cybercriminals target. With PC endpoints spread across multiple locations, business email for staff, and firewalls to maintain, Calhoun's courthouse wanted to ensure that all aspects were thoroughly examined. With Calhoun desiring a complete protection plan, they also required data backups in case of a disaster situation or data breach to cover all their bases. RDI created a comprehensive security and data backup plan with built in support to ensure that they received what they needed.

Calhoun County Requirements

1. Enhanced security measures to protect endpoints, data, and users.
2. Secure data backups to have redundant protection against cyber threats such as malware and ransomware.
3. Budget-friendly price to support proactively and keep systems updated regularly.

The Solution

- Managed Firewalls - Secure and resilient network security with managed firewall features.
- Thinix AssuredSecurity® - Multi-layer protection and patching for PC endpoints.
- Secure Data Backups – Data redundancy for all important files and preventative for ransomware attacks.
- Email Services – Hosted business email services with built in filtering and phishing protection.

The Implementation

Once RDI created a comprehensive security plan for Calhoun County, it was implemented into their Attorney, Auditor, Emergency Response, and Treasurer offices without disrupting the daily operations. Calhoun's plan consists of multiple, fully managed services from RDI. Our managed firewalls deliver full-strength threat management to safeguard data, confidential records, and much more. Since RDI partners with industry-leading technology providers, our firewalls offered stronger security at big cost savings for Calhoun County.

Paired with the managed firewall is Thinix AssuredSecurity. AssuredSecurity is another managed security service that monitors and strengthens the ongoing security dispositions of Calhoun's computers. Featuring 24/7 monitoring, AssuredSecurity actively hunts for malicious threats and activity in your PC environment, improving the baseline security of Calhoun's networks.

Rounding out Calhoun's security plan advanced email filtering and defense protection. This was essential for Calhoun County because email attacks are one of the most targeted areas for cyber-attacks. This solution protects Calhoun by effectively filtering unwanted emails that could contain malicious content.

All of these security measures effectively protect Calhoun County from thousands of today's most advanced cybersecurity threats. However, human error is a risk that can't be fully prevented. RDI understands this and supplemented Calhoun's email service with end-user training to educate staff on proper email protocol to mitigate the potential for any human error.

RDI specializes in providing Full-Circle Service that consists of honesty, respect, timely responses, accurate communication, post-service follow-ups, and ongoing support. This coupled with comprehensive solutions, helped RDI stand out to Calhoun County compared to other technology providers.

The Results

Since the deployment of RDI's comprehensive security solutions, Calhoun County has experienced a high functioning network with increased security measures to protect the daily operations of their various departments. Calhoun County now has peace-of-mind knowing that they are continuously protected by an expert security partner in today's complex cybersecurity environment.