Fulton Street Software is an independent software vendor of web-based foster care management applications called OPTIONS. Fulton Street’s applications are used by multiple child & family welfare agency service providers in the state of New York. The HIPAA compliant application supports multiple agency providers – with the largest application customer managing over 1,500 active children in their system. Fulton Street was growing fast and was looking for a modern infrastructure that could scale to meet their needs and grow as they grow, while increasing savings and avoiding costs.

For Fulton Street Software, NetEnrich migrated their applications to Azure.

Background

More Cost Effective – Over 30% cost savings, cost avoidance, and economies for maintenance

Better Performance – Over 40% improved performance on Azure as compared to on-premise environment

High Scalability – Application can scale up to 10X in elastic fashion on high traffic loads

Easy deployment - Changes to application can be easily migrated to Azure without downtime

Simplified management – No unnecessary OS updates and administrative tasks

Continuous Availability – Application available 24x7 without downtime.

Easy Onboarding of New Agency Customers – Setting up new customer agencies is smooth

Comprehensive Backup – Backup for both application and data

High Security – HIPAA compliance and high security for application and data

“NetEnrich is an expert in the Azure platform, understands the pitfalls of cloud migrations, and their people are adept problem solvers.”

John Lertzman
Founder and CEO of Fulton Street Software
Business need/Challenges
The legacy OPTIONS web application was built using ASP.NET 4.0, SQL Server 2008, SSRS reporting services, and was hosted at an on-premise data center. Key components in the application included Object-Relational Mappers such as Entity Framework, LLBLGenPro, NHibernate, as well as Jquery and UML 2.0.

Additionally, each instance of the application:
- Ran on one IIS Server, one TFS Server and one DR server (each on separate Windows Server 2008 R2 versions)
- Used two standard SQL Server 2008 database servers to store application data – one for staging and one for production -- (note that SQL Server 2008 R2 is to be end-of-lifed soon by Microsoft)
- Met HIPAA compliance requirements
- Relied on forms based authentication
- Stored application data files to local disk
- Used SSRS for reporting
- Stored logs in Windows Events
- Had a data size where largest was 15GB

NetEnrich Solution:
NetEnrich conducted a PaaS migration of the Fulton Street OPTIONS application to Microsoft Azure Cloud. The Azure App Service was used for app migration, as it eases challenges around deployment and management, while catering to high availability and scalability that the application demands. All this was accomplished with minimal code changes.

Additionally:
- Data was migrated from legacy SQL 2008 R2 to SQL Online (PaaS) on Azure
- Payroll data was exported to an accounting software on Azure
- Health Level-7 compliant data (for use in Electronic Medical Records) was exported to Azure