

The Nonprofit's Cybersecurity Checklist

About Connect Cause

Connect Cause empowers nonprofit organizations by delivering reliable, affordable, and mission-aligned technology solutions. We specialize in managed IT services, cybersecurity, Voice over IP (VoIP), cloud infrastructure, and application development, all tailored specifically for nonprofits. With flat-fee pricing and unlimited support, our nonprofit clients never have to choose between staying secure and staying on budget. From IT strategy and project management to cloud migrations and database development, our experts ensure technology becomes a success driver, not a roadblock. We partner with leading software vendors to offer exclusive nonprofit discounts, and we manage every aspect of technology, on premises or in the cloud, so nonprofits can focus on what matters most: their mission. Whether you're a growing nonprofit or a national organization, Connect Cause helps you do more with less through strategic IT leadership and responsive support.



Nonprofits are frequent cyber targets because attackers know resources are limited and staff often wear multiple hats. That makes it easier for phishing scams, ransomware, and outdated systems to slip through the cracks. A single incident could mean stolen donor data, lost trust, or even halted services. The good news? With the right steps, you can protect your mission without overspending. Use this checklist to evaluate your nonprofit's readiness, spot vulnerabilities, and take action before cyber threats cause real harm.

► Passwords & Access

- ☐ Staff use unique, complex passwords for each account.
- ☐ Password manager is implemented and enforced.
- ☐ Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) enabled on all accounts.
- ☐ Access is removed immediately for departing staff/volunteers.
- ☐ Administrative access is restricted to only those who truly need it.

► Staff Training

- ☐ Cybersecurity training is completed at least annually.
- ☐ Phishing simulations or awareness tests are performed regularly.
- ☐ Staff know how to report suspicious emails or activity.
- ☐ Training includes volunteers, board members, and anyone with access to nonprofit systems.

► Systems & Software

- ☐ Operating systems and applications are fully up-to-date.
- ☐ Antivirus and firewall solutions are installed and active.
- ☐ Unused accounts and outdated software are removed.
- ☐ Regular audits are performed to ensure systems remain patched and secure.



► Data Protection

- ☐ Automated backups are performed daily (stored securely offsite/cloud).
- ☐ Backups are tested regularly for reliability.
- ☐ Sensitive donor and client data is encrypted at rest and in transit.
- ☐ Access to sensitive files is limited based on staff roles and responsibilities.

► Compliance & Policies

- ☐ Compliance requirements (HIPAA, PCI DSS, etc.) are reviewed annually.
- ☐ Cybersecurity policies are documented and shared with staff.
- ☐ Incident response plan is established and tested.
- ☐ Vendors and partners are vetted to ensure they meet cybersecurity standards.

► Proactive Support

- ☐ Nonprofit partners with an MSP or IT provider for 24/7 monitoring.
- ☐ Security patches and updates are handled proactively.
- ☐ IT support is available for both emergencies and ongoing strategy.
- ☐ Technology planning includes budgeting for security, upgrades, and staff training.

► How We Can Help

If you checked fewer boxes than you'd like, you're not alone. Most nonprofits face the same challenges: limited staff, limited budgets, and limited time. Unfortunately, hackers know this, which is why nonprofits are targeted twice as often as businesses of the same size.

That's where Connect Cause comes in. We provide affordable, proactive IT and cybersecurity services built specifically for nonprofits. From staff training and device upgrades to 24/7 monitoring and compliance support, our team helps you protect donor trust, keep your data secure, and ensure your mission never misses a step.

About Connect Cause

Accredited Managed Services
Provider

State-of-the-Art Operations Center with
Cutting Edge Technology

24 / 7 / 365 Remote Help Desk and
On-Site Support

24 / 7 / 365 Real-Time Network
Monitoring

Experienced, Certified Technicians and
Engineers

Dedicated Account Managers

Predictable Monthly Cost, Scalable Level of
Service

Remote Resolution of Issues More than 90%
of the Time

Easy to Understand Graphical
Reporting of Performance

Reduces IT Operational Costs by Up to 70%

Pro Tip

Cybersecurity isn't just about tools, it's about habits. Even simple practices like enabling MFA, locking devices when unattended, and training staff regularly provide more protection than expensive software alone.

