

EMS Case Study *Temple Sinai Denver*



Background

Founded in suburban Denver in 1967, Temple Sinai exists to “meet the religious, spiritual, social and educational needs of its members.” The staff’s ability to meet those needs depends, in part, on their ability to find the time and space in which to hold religious services, classes, meetings and other events. With an active congregation of 1150 families - roughly 4000 people - that can be quite a challenge.

From Outdated Manual Process to Simplified Computer-Based Scheduling

Ruth Cohen is the executive director of Temple Sinai. One of her many responsibilities there is to review meeting and event requests and determine whether they can be accommodated. “We have a very vibrant and energetic congregation and staff,” she says. “One of our biggest challenges is ensuring that they have the space they need for their gatherings.”

When she first came to work for Temple Sinai, Cohen found that the staff was using a manual process to schedule events. “Not only was our staff working much harder than they needed to just to get events scheduled,” she says, “They had to spend additional time and energy to ensure that there were no double-bookings and no miscommunication about setup and resource requirements.”

After trying a few other calendaring programs that were not working for them either, Cohen reviewed EMS Lite™ event management system. In evaluating the software for a number of weeks, she determined that its ability to prevent double-bookings, its easy-to-use interface, and the detailed reports that it could produce were just what Temple Sinai needed. What’s more, when looking at the positive impact the software would have in light of its reasonable price, it was definitely a cost-effective solution.

Fast Facts

- Replaces manual scheduling system with **EMS Lite**
- **47** rooms
- **4,000** members
- **Reservation Wizard** helps maximize the use of space

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Today at Temple Sinai

After a smooth transition to the EMS Lite system, the Temple Sinai staff is scheduling an ever-increasing number of events - thousands each year - with significantly less stress and effort than had been the norm with a manual process.

The temple's 47 rooms are in heavy use, often from early morning until well into the evening. "Sometimes we schedule more events than our building should be able to handle," confides Cohen.

One tool that helps Temple Sinai maximize the use of its space is the Reservation Wizard, which is used to find available space for an event and can even piece together a multi-date reservation during busy times when there is no one room that is available for all of the required dates. Cohen and staff also rely on the Setup Worksheet, a comprehensive report that provides all the detail a setup crew needs to prepare for a day's events.

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Looking back at the days of manual facility scheduling, with all the potential for error, Ruth Cohen breathes a sigh of relief. "Thank goodness we don't have too many horror stories about scheduling miscues," she says. "But that was sheer luck more than anything else!"

As luck would have it, Temple Sinai has discovered the power of EMS Lite.

For more information on Dean Evans & Associates, and the company's event management, master calendaring, online registration and survey software products, go to www.dea.com or contact the Sales department at sales@dea.com or 1.800.440.3994 ext. 863.

