

# How a nonprofit organization modernizes their data with a centralized data warehouse

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## Client

A national nonprofit organization in the public education sector

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## Location

United States

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## Featured Partners



A national nonprofit organization needed a modernized approach to data management to support their mission-driven work across multiple service areas. Their legacy systems and siloed data practices hindered visibility, slowed decision-making, and posed a risk to data integrity. They partnered with Marlabs to build a centralized data warehouse that would improve operational efficiency, promote data governance, and enable long-term scalability.

Through a structured, collaborative process, Marlabs helped the organization migrate critical data from legacy systems into a single cloud-based environment with reliable reporting and analytics capabilities. The result was a modern data infrastructure that provided leadership with real-time insights and enhanced the organization's ability to serve its constituents.



Data Strategy &  
Roadmap



Cloud Data  
Architecture



Data Warehouse  
Modernization



Analytics &  
Reporting

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# The Challenge: Tackling fragmented data systems in a mission-driven environment



**Objective:** Build a centralized data warehouse to streamline reporting and enable future scalability.



**Existing Issues:** Legacy systems were causing siloed data, inconsistent reporting, and inefficiencies across departments.



**Solution Needed:** A modern, cloud-based data architecture with strong data governance and integrated reporting.



**Outcome:** Marlabs delivered a scalable data warehouse that improved visibility, reporting accuracy, and executive decision-making.



The organization operated with multiple disconnected systems, making it difficult to access and analyze critical information needed for strategic planning and reporting. They needed a centralized data warehouse to unify the data pipeline and create trustworthy data and reports.

# The Solution: Building a scalable & governed data infrastructure

Marlabs implemented a comprehensive solution that combined strategic planning with technical execution. The approach ensured that the organization's new data warehouse aligned with long-term goals, regulatory needs, and operational realities. The phased methodology provided incremental wins while laying the foundation for sustained value and scalability.

## Phase 1: Stakeholder Discovery & Alignment

Marlabs met with organizational leaders to understand goals, define needs, and establish a data strategy.

### Workstreams:

- Stakeholder engagement
- Needs identification
- Vision alignment
- Roadmap development

## Phase 2: Architecture Design & Cloud Migration

The team designed a scalable, cloud-based architecture and migrated key data assets into the new environment.

### Workstreams:

- Cloud environment setup
- Data modeling
- Data migration
- Architecture validation

## Phase 3: Data Governance & Integration

We embedded governance practices into the design, and we integrated multiple legacy systems for unified access.

### Workstreams:

- Governance framework
- Data integration
- Source mapping
- Policy definition

## Phase 4: Enablement & Reporting Delivery

Finally, our team built self-service dashboards and reports to enable fast access to insights. We also provided training for more effective adoption.

### Workstreams:

- Dashboard development
- Report delivery
- User enablement
- Knowledge transfer

## Services and Technologies Used:

### Services:

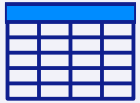
- Data
- Data Architecture and Engineering
- Data Warehousing
- Data Migration
- Data Integration
- Data Strategy
- Data Management
- Business Intelligence (BI)
- Data Governance
- Data Visualization

### Technologies:

- Fivetran
- Snowflake

# The Results: Impact on the client organization

The nonprofit organization emerged from the project with a trusted, centralized data platform that supports strategic growth. The scalable cloud solution improved leadership visibility, enabled self-service capabilities, and fostered a stronger data culture across departments. Through training and governance planning, the organization is now equipped to maintain and evolve its data environment over time.



**Streamlined Reporting Processes:** Reports that once took hours to compile can now be generated in minutes.



**Enhanced Strategic Planning:** Leadership can make data-driven decisions with greater speed and confidence.



**Centralized Data Access:** Users access a single source of truth, which reduces confusion and duplication.



**Scalable, Future-Ready Architecture:** The new platform supports future integrations and growth without significant rework.



**Increased Operational Efficiency:** Departments gained quicker access to relevant data, allowing them to reduce bottlenecks.



**Reduced Security and Compliance Risks:** Data governance provides clearly defined roles and processes that strengthen compliance and accountability.