SACS News

News and information from SACS Software

Product Spotlight

SACS Notifier

The SACS Notifier is an automated system for sending email and texting messages (SMS) to your residents.

This system can send reexamination appointment reminders, rent due reminders, and issued and completed work order messages.

It includes a mass notification option. This option will allow you to send an email or text message to all residents.

Reminder notifications can be sent one or more days before a scheduled event. They can event be sent multiple times.

> This is a reminder of your recertification appointment with SACS Housing Authority on Wednesday, 3/8/2017 at 1:15 PM.

The messages can be setup with your agency's specific wording and requirements.

SACS Notifier uses a SMS gateway to quickly route messages to resident phones regardless of the provider.

For more information and a demonstration contact sales@sacssoftware.com.

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SACS Notes

The SACS 2017 User Conference was a great success! We had over 380 people in attendance. It was great seeing you all there.

Attendees learned about SACS Notifier, our new automated email and texting system. They also saw demonstrations of credit card processing and our new mobile solutions being developed for Android and Apple devices.

Our new one hour class format was a big hit. This allowed users to attend more classes.

It was our pleasure to hear your suggestions and recommendations. These will guide our software development this year. We are excited to turn your ideas into functioning applications.

Congratulations to our grand prize winners. Ina Boyd of Waycross Housing Authority won a new Dell laptop computer and Bill Rigdon of Vienna Housing Authority won a 32 inch television.

Welcome New Customers!

SACS continues to grow. Please welcome our newest customers! We now serve 372 housing authorities in 17 states.

- Ripley Housing Authority   Ripley, TN
- Point Pleasant Housing Authority   Point Pleasant, WV
- Blakely Housing Authority   Blakely, GA
- Bridgeport Housing Authority   Bridgeport, AL
- Independence Housing Authority   Independence, MO
- Monroe Housing Authority   Monroe, NC
- Lake City Housing Authority   Lake City, SC

Build 6295 Highlights

SACS Software Build 6295 was released on 3/28/17. Listed below are some highlights from this release.

After installing this update, you can view the full release notes from the SACS Main Menu by clicking Help then Release Notes.

System Setup
A new program in the System Administration menu allows users to access system setup.

Rent/HAP Register
The Tenant Receivable module now has a report that will list the tenant's rent and HAP amount. This can be used by agencies that receive HAP subsidies for tenants. This will help agencies with RAD PBV.

Mass Change Caseworker
A new program for the Conventional and Section 8 modules to change caseworkers in mass. This allows agencies to quickly assign and distribute residents to case workers.

Mass Change Application Status
A new feature has been added to the Mass Change Application Status program. You can easily change a specific number of applicants from one status to another based selection criteria.

2017 941 Form
The new 2017 Form is included in this update.

Menu Theme
The color of the menu can now be changed using built-in themes.

Developer's Corner

At the 2017 User Conference, we presented a demonstration of our new mobile applications for Android and Apple devices. The SACS Occupant Inquiry is now being tested.

Our goal is to make all of our Windows mobile applications available on the Android and Apple platforms this year. We will be making announcements when they become available.

A representative from HUD REAC attended the conference and informed users about PIC-NG. PIC-NG will replace the current PIC system. The new system should be available during the first quarter of 2017. We will start beta testing this summer.

TRACS has announced the release of TRACS 203A. This version brings new reporting and data capturing requirements. We will be addressing the new requirements in an upcoming software release. TRACS will begin accepting 203A transactions in June.

The current software release includes changes for flat rent calculations for prorated assistance. Some customers have flat rents that are adjusted for tenant paid utility. This required us to have two setup fields for flat rent. One that contains the actual flat rent and one that has the flat rent that is adjusted for tenant paid utilities. See PIH Notice 2012-14 for more information.

The new SACS Notifier brings automated email and SMS (text messaging) to your residents. This system will automatically send appointment reminders, rent due reminders, and work order issued and completed messages. See the front page sidebar for more information.

Menu theming is included in the current software release. This gives you the ability to set the color of your menu.

We have several exciting changes planned for this year. These along with HUD mandated changes will keep us busy.

As always, we welcome your suggestions and input. Send your suggestions to changerequest@sacssoftware.com.

Tech Tips

The VMS Data report can be a big help for Section 8 authorities. It provides a summary of information needed to complete the 52681-B form.

For this report to present correct information, it is important that you enter payment adjustments for each month. You cannot lump several months of payments into one month.

The report can print out detailed information to help you analyze the reported information.

Date based utility allowances for Conventional Housing and Section 8 have been a great enhancement. This allows agencies to enter new allowances before they become effective. Our applications will automatically select the correct allowance based on the effective date.

For Section 8, these allowances will allow you to print the HUD-52667 form. For more information contact SACS Technical Support.

Report Scheduler

The SACS Report Scheduler is used to email an employee or group of employees report information from your SACS database. The reporting service is automatic and can be configured to send information based on your criteria.

The following is an example of a report that lists the members that are turning 18 this month.

SACS Housing Members Turning 18		
Name	**Birth Date**	**Age**
Jones, Joe	2/25/1994	18
Lloyd, Babe E.	2/25/1994	18

Created with the SACS Housing Reporting Service

You determine when and what should be reported. An email is delivered to your inbox on your set schedule. Contact SACS Technical support for more information.

Letter Maintenance

The SACS Letter Maintenance application makes it easy to add or edit your SACS Letters. You no longer need to remember the document names used by the SACS letter programs. The Letter Maintenance program will automatically load the correct document based on the letter that you select.

If you have never used this application, your system administrator will need to give you access. The application is located in the Productivity Tools module.

Conference Schedule

SACS is preparing for a busy conference season. We will be attending the following conferences. Be sure to stop by and visit us. We look forward to seeing you there!

AAHRA Spring Workshop
Birmingham, AL — April 17-19

Arkansas NAHRO
Little Rock, AR — April 26-28

TAHRA Spring Workshop
Franklin, TN — April 10-12

Southwest NAHRO
San Antonio, TX — June 5-8

SERC Annual Conference
Nashville, TN — June 25-27

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