

## Soutron's Customisable Search Portal Transforms Access to Collections at CHADD's National Resource Centre on ADHD Library

### INTRODUCTION

The organisation Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD) was founded in 1987 in response to the frustration and sense of isolation experienced by parents and their children with ADHD. ADHD is medically and legally recognised as a treatable yet functionally impairing disorder, affecting up to nine percent of all children, and approximately four percent of adults.

The National Research Centre (NRC) Library at CHADD is supported by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CHADD's NRC Library is also an Affiliate Member of the Network of the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The goals and priorities of CHADD are to serve as a clearing house for evidence-based information about ADHD, provide support for families and individuals affected by ADHD, and to serve as their advocate. As a result, the NRC library users comprise a diverse audience of teens and children, parents and caregivers, educators, policymakers, and healthcare professionals.

### CHALLENGE

A long-term InMagic Genie (later known as GeniePlus) user, the CHADD NRC library found that the search interface of their existing library solution from Lucidea, was difficult for their audience to use to find materials. "The InMagic search interface was built for a librarian to use," states Zuali Malsawma, MLIS and NRC Director. "And the design was fixed. We could not do a lot on our own and had to use Lucidea services to make those changes."



That fixed design meant the NRC could not provide information to their various audiences the way they wanted to. "Our audience is very important to us, as we address a range of needs from parental needs, research needs from students and teenagers, from healthcare professionals and more," states Zuali, "CHADD and the CDC both want education on ADHD."

To help fulfil that need, CHADD publishes a lot of educational information such as fact sheets, infographics, web articles, webinars, podcasts, the *Attention* magazine and conference materials. They were challenged to provide easy access to their publications for various audiences.

### SOLUTION

Zuali was familiar with Soutron Global due to the outreach Soutron had done over the course of several years, educating her about their special library solution. "I was impressed with the different library layouts that I was shown," says Zuali. As a result, the NRC library staff knew they could create an easy-to-use search experience for their audiences, in addition to improving access to their online collections for each audience type.



"We would recommend Soutron to other libraries."

Zuali Malsawma, NRC Director and Rachel James, MSLIS, Health Sciences Librarian and manager of the Young Scientist Research Awards at CHADD



Unique to the CHADD collection and audience needs, their new online library is organised by audience types (educators, healthcare professionals, parents, teens, children, adults), all of whom can now quickly find materials that are relevant to their needs.

To help make their collection even more accessible, selections of resources can be found in the Popular Searches tab. Popular Searches include news articles, magazine articles, books, webinars, podcasts, and CHADD conference materials.

CHADD's NRC Library collects evidenced-based information on attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and related topics. Over 13,000 articles, books, videos, podcasts, and other materials have been catalogued into the Soutron database, including conference materials that the CHADD audiences, including their 117 CHADD Chapters, can easily access.

All this improved accessibility is due to the flexibility of Soutron's Search Portal technology. It is template driven, incorporates HTML5 and CSS style sheets and is easily customisable, allowing for the organisation and display of information to improve the audience search experience and enhance collection accessibility.

With Soutron, it is easy to make changes to an existing theme template or create a custom template using the Soutron template design editor, which allows customisation of changes to the portal pages, search results pages, and even of the full record display pages. Users can control headers and footers, amend text, change layout, and even create additional content pages for specific subject areas or departments with customised navigation menus.

Due to that built-in flexibility, the NRC library has complete control over the way results are presented in their online library, including the page layout and style, branding, graphics, colours, and more.

Taking advantage of this functionality, NRC created a unique library portal, seamlessly integrated with the CHADD website for their diverse audiences, simplifying access to their unique information resources.

## Collections-focused Custom Library Search Portal

Rachel James, MSLIS, Health Sciences Librarian and manager of the Young Scientist Research Awards at CHADD states "With Soutron I can create collections and easily use CSS styles to customise it," says Rachel. "I also found that I could easily update fields and records to make our collection materials display the way I want them to."

Here is an example of their new library portal, consisting of custom tabs, each leading to resource pages customised for their audiences.



To help make their collections more accessible, selections of resources can be found in the Popular Searches tab. Popular searches include news articles, magazine articles, books for educators, healthcare professionals, parents, teens, children, adults, webinars, podcasts, CHADD conference materials. Latest items added to the catalogue can be found in the New Resources tab.

## RESULTS

"We really appreciate the Soutron training and implementation people," state both Zuali and Rachel. "We would recommend Soutron to other libraries."



The National Resource Centre Library for ADHD at CHADD can be accessed here:

<https://chadd.org/adhd-information-library/>

To find out how you can migrate to a fast, secure, cloud-based library management system to support your organisation's library, start a conversation with Soutron Global today:

[www.soutron.com](http://www.soutron.com)

