

Blackbaud, Inc. Data Security Incident

Hardin-Simmons University takes the protection and proper use of information very seriously and we are posting this notice as a precautionary measure.

We recently were made aware of a data security incident involving Blackbaud, Inc., an engagement and fundraising software provider used by more than 45,000 universities, health care organizations, nonprofits, foundations, and other organizations worldwide, including the Hardin-Simmons Office of Advancement to support our fundraising efforts.

Blackbaud informed us that Hardin-Simmons data maintained by Blackbaud was part of the security incident described on the Blackbaud website blackbaud.com/securityincident. According to Blackbaud, the copy of the file the cybercriminal removed did not contain any credit card information, and the cybercriminal did not gain access to bank account information, usernames, passwords, or social security numbers which may have been stored in the database because they were encrypted. Blackbaud also states that none of the data was lost or corrupted as a result of the incident.

Blackbaud reports that the security incident it experienced was discovered and stopped in May of 2020. Blackbaud worked with security experts and law enforcement to respond to the threat and has received confirmation that the data taken by the cybercriminal was destroyed and not used. Also as reported to us by Blackbaud, it has no reason to believe that any data went beyond the cybercriminal or that the data has been misused or disseminated publicly. Blackbaud has hired a third-party company to continue monitoring for any such activity.

We value your trust in the university, and if you have any questions or concerns Dr. Eric Wyatt, Assistant Vice President for Advancement is available at eric.wyatt@hsutx.edu.

Your support of Hardin-Simmons University is greatly appreciated as we continue to provide our students with an education enlightened by Christian faith and values.