



NSF Convergence Accelerator's 2022 Cohort Phase 2 Award

Project Title

Analysis and Response for Trust Tool (ARTT): Expert-Informed Resources for Individuals and Online Communities to Address Vaccine Hesitancy

Awardee

Hacks/Hackers

Award/Contract

49100421C0037

Award Contract Type

R&D

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NSF Funded Directorate

Directorate for Technology,
Innovation and Partnerships

NSF Funded Program

NSF's Convergence Accelerator

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PROJECT ABSTRACT

Motivated citizens— amateur volunteers, health communicators, local librarians—make efforts every day to provide communities with reliable information. Research shows that their efforts are crucial in the fight against online misinformation on complicated topics, but this work can be overwhelming. Led by Hacks/Hackers and the University of Washington, the project team will develop a software tool to support these online citizens through expert multidisciplinary guidance and encouragement for their efforts. The tool acts like a pair of metaphorical x-ray glasses to help users analyze online content (e.g., social media posts) and provide research-backed guidance on how to respond to that content.

To ensure the solution's success, the team will continue the research and development of supporting tools that encapsulate the expert analysis of credible information. In addition, the team will build upon prior results regarding effective trust-building response interventions suitable for the software tool. Finally, the project will work with a range of potential users, including Wikimedians, journalists, educators, students, and health communicators, who will provide input and feedback. The project will bring together insights from fields including computer science, social science, media literacy, conflict resolution, and psychology. Though designed to have an initial impact on community exchanges regarding vaccine safety, the project will produce outputs and knowledge that will be transferable to multiple information domains.