

Wikipedia operator gets \$500,000 foundation grant

August 21 2009

(AP) -- The nonprofit organization that operates the popular online encyclopedia Wikipedia has received a \$500,000 grant from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to expand its work bringing free educational content to people around the globe.

The Hewlett Foundation says [Wikipedia](#) plays an important role in making information freely accessible. The foundation has made more than \$100 million in grants since 2001 to promote the availability of high quality educational materials that anyone can use and edit for free.

San Francisco-based Wikimedia says the grant will help it make its software more user friendly, develop training materials to engage new potential volunteer editors and set up key metrics to track the organization's impact.

Last year, the mammoth Internet encyclopedia built by volunteers received its largest donation ever - \$3 million from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

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Citation: Wikipedia operator gets \$500,000 foundation grant (2009, August 21) retrieved 9 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2009-08-wikipedia-foundation-grant.html>

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