

Craigslist founder donates \$500K to curb Wikipedia trolls

January 27 2017



In this Jan. 18, 2012, file photo, Mallory Whitt works at her desk at the offices of the Wikipedia Foundation in San Francisco. The foundation announced on Jan. 26, 2017, that Craigslist founder Craig Newmark is donating \$500,000 to help curb harassment on Wikipedia. (AP Photo/Eric Risberg, File)

Craigslist founder Craig Newmark is donating \$500,000 to help curb harassment on Wikipedia.

The Wikimedia Foundation announced Thursday that money from the Craig Newmark Foundation and Craigslist's Charitable Fund will go toward tools for Wikipedia's staff and volunteer editors to reduce [harassment](#) on the user-generated encyclopedia site.

The Wikimedia Foundation says online harassment faced by Wikipedia contributors impedes their ability to write and edit the site's entries.

Newmark says in a statement that preventing "trolling, harassment and cyber-bullying" is essential to ensuring Wikipedia's vitality.

Wikimedia says the money will be used to launch a program to help editors "more quickly identify potentially harassing behavior." One of the tools being considered under the program is to make it more difficult for blocked users to return to the site.

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Citation: Craigslist founder donates \$500K to curb Wikipedia trolls (2017, January 27) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-01-craigslist-founder-donates-500k-curb.html>

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