

Informed Consent Action Network (ICAN) Obtains Email Showing Alliance Between White House, Facebook, and Pharma

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[ICAN Legal Update](#)

February 14, 2022

A White House email, obtained on behalf of ICAN, shows Facebook, Merck, and the CDC Foundation, whose corporate partners includes Pfizer, have formed an alliance “to use social media and digital platforms to build confidence in and drive uptake of vaccines.” No conflict there.

On August 12, 2021, ICAN, through its attorneys, submitted a Freedom of Information Act [request](#) for communications between White House staff and Facebook, Google, and YouTube. In response to this request, ICAN received a June 15, 2021 [email](#) sent by Facebook’s then-Public Policy Manager, Nkechi “Payton” Itheme, to several White House employees.

In it, Itheme announces a new initiative, the “Alliance for Advancing Health Care,” between Facebook and several major companies and organizations, including Merck, the Vaccine Confidence Project, the Sabin Vaccine Institute, and the CDC

Foundation. Significantly, one of the CDC Foundation's [corporate partners](#) is Pfizer. In the email, Itheme explains that the Alliance is "focused on advancing public understanding of how social media and behavioral sciences can be leveraged to improve the health of communities around the world" and states that its first project is to "provide grants to researchers and organizations for projects that explore **how to use social media and digital platforms to build confidence in and drive uptake of vaccines.**" Facebook announced this new initiative on June 9, 2021 [here](#).

The conflict of interest is astonishing. This email shows without a doubt that, through the CDC Foundation created "to support the [CDC's] work," the federal government, which is in charge of ensuring the safety of vaccines, has teamed up with Big Pharma and Big Tech to push a liability-free product on the world, while attempting to stomp out anyone who questions this arrangement.

Just as the pharmaceutical companies will never rest when it comes to promoting and selling their vaccine products, and the federal government will not rest in its efforts to assist them, we will never rest in exposing the truth regarding these products or in demanding full transparency and full informed consent for any and all vaccines.

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