# Taking Small Steps Toward Inclusion and Anti-Racism

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for Challenges and Opportunities in Open Source Software, October 2021

# ArchivesSpace is…

- **An archives information management software application:**
  - Supports many functions in archives and special collections
  - Created by archivists and supported by diverse repositories
  - Fills a need with few proprietary vendor solutions.

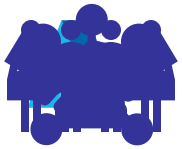
# ArchivesSpace is also…

- **A community:**
  - Working together to create an application that reflects our values
  - Supporting each other in carrying out our individual missions for the collective good

- **An opportunity:**
  - To bring people from different sizes and types of institutions together to solve common problems and address wider challenges.

# Anti-racism and inclusion community discussions

- Conducted in the immediacy of the events of Spring/Summer 2020
- Returned to in reflection
- Wide-ranging set of ideas: https://archivesspace.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/ADC/pages/1737490437/Anti-racism+and+Inclusion+Initiatives+Progress



# Finding a path in some simple truths

Engaged application users = engaged community members

Actively identify users we want in our community

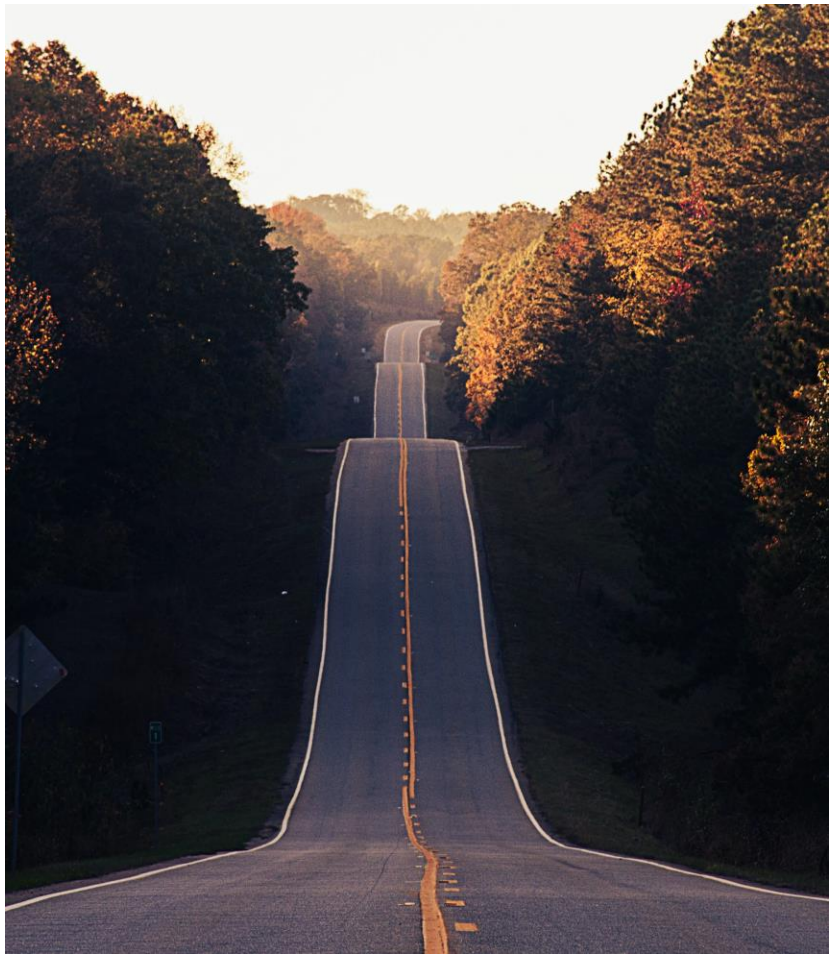
Connect them with resources to use the application

Provide resources to support them getting involved

ArchivesSpace
diversity
PARTNERSHIP
ArchivesSpace
a community served by LYRASIS

# Our first five Partners

# Next steps



- First full Partners meeting in December
- Strengthening Board commitment
  - Lens for setting priorities and allocating resources
- Picking the next set of initiatives to tackle
- Checking in regularly and keeping us honest

# Thank you!

- To learn more about ArchivesSpace, visit http://archivesspace.org

- Or contact us at ArchivesSpaceHome@lyrasis.org