

Proposed New Benchmarks Would Step Up Antipoverty Grant Making

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A watchdog group is pushing grant makers to spend at least half of their grant dollars to help poor people and minorities, arguing that many foundations are ignoring the needs of charities that serve disadvantaged people even as demand rises due to the economic downturn.

The proposal by the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy received support from a member of Congress and more than 100 charity leaders. But other nonprofit groups have criticized it, arguing that it is too narrow an approach and would stifle philanthropy.

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