

Making Contributions That Matter

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In this economy, charitable foundations are under some of the same financial constraints as families and businesses, and a new report says most could be doing a better job of choosing education-related projects and programs to support.

In a study of more than 670 foundations from the *National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy*, including many that donate in California, only 11 percent spent at least half of their education dollars on students in under-served populations. Even fewer focused on long-term solutions to problems in education.

Study author Kevin Welner says foundations need to spend more time getting to know the people and communities their grants will be helping – and doing more research on what really works – before they write the check.

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