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FOUNDATION GIVING LEAVES MARK IN THE SCHOOL CHOICE MOVEMENT

ies grantmakers' strategies used to promote privatization of public education

Washington, D.C. – The nation's school voucher movement suffered a set back when the Friedman Foundation for School Choice released a report titled "The Friedman Foundation's Involvement in Utah Isn't Unique," said Rick Cohen, author of Strategic Grantmaking. The latest report from NCRP, Strategic Grantmaking takes us behind the scenes of the school choice movement. In the study, Cohen identified over 1,200 foundations that gave more than \$380 million to 104 school choice organizations. Some expect an infusion of considerable dollars into efforts to promote charter schools and private schools. However, the effectiveness of foundation support for the privatization of public education goes beyond the dollars. "What impresses me the most about these school choice funders is their movement-building strategies," Cohen says. In Strategic Grantmaking, Cohen identifies these strategies. One of these strategies is the use of grantmakers to support the movement. Cohen also found that the leaders of these foundations provide additional support to the privatization of public education. Washington, D.C. and the states of Georgia, Florida and Vermont have school voucher programs. Strategic Grantmaking is available for free download on the NCRP Web site. Hard copies are