The SWIFT Center publishes issue brief on delivering equity in Schools

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In November 2013, the SWIFT Center published an issue brief on delivering equity in our nation’s schools.

The issue brief titled, “Delivering on Equity: Implications for Decision-makers,” focuses on the benefits of integrated classrooms and how to move schools towards operating as fully integrated organizations.

“Equity is a fundamental value held by TASH and its members--equity of access and equity of opportunity and this value applies to all people,” said Jenny Stonemeier, Education Policy Director at TASH. “The SWIFT Center approaches the issue of equity through a lens of social justice as it relates to all children; those living in poverty, those who are English language learners, and children with disabilities, including those who are most significantly impacted by their disability.”

The issue brief, published in November 2013, focuses on the benefits of integrated classrooms in our nation’s schools. Not only have researchers found advantages of inclusive education for children with disabilities, but they have also found advantages for children without disabilities. The SWIFT framework moves schools toward operating as a fully integrated organization that discourages the formulation of silos and facilitates collaborative teaching at all grades and levels of intervention.

Since October 2012, TASH has proudly partnered with the SWIFT Center, serving as the basis of its education policy team. The SWIFT Center is a national K-8 center that provides academic and behavioral support to promote the learning and academic achievement of all students, including students with disabilities and those with the most extensive needs.

Click here to read the issue brief on delivering equity in our nation’s schools and help support the SWIFT Center’s mission to transform education in order to benefit each and every student, their family, and the communities in which they reside.

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A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, TASH is an international grassroots leader in advancing inclusive communities through research, education and advocacy. Founded in 1975, we are a volunteer-driven organization that advocates for human rights and inclusion for people with the most significant disabilities and support needs – those most vulnerable to segregation, abuse, neglect and institutionalization. The inclusive practices we validate through research have been shown to improve outcomes for all people. More information about TASH can be found at www.tash.org.