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TASH Recognized Internationally for Policy Work Aimed at Education Equity

TASH to be featured at Vienna conference on progress toward implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

WASHINGTON, DC – TASH is being recognized for innovation in inclusive education by the international body monitoring global progress on implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. TASH’s policy analysis and alignment work with SWIFT Center, a U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs national technical assistance center, was selected for this honor and will be featured at the 2016 Zero Project Conference on Inclusive Education and ICT in Vienna, Austria.

“Our focus is on supporting school, district and state leaders to consider, analyze and change policy to support practices that are known to advance equity for all students,” said Barb Trader, executive director of TASH. “We know from research that aligning policy to support practice removes barriers, empowers leadership teams, and improves sustainability of positive reforms beyond a time-limited initiative.” TASH’s work uses policy as a tool to support the sustainability and scale-up efforts of education agencies to implement practices that improve the academic and behavioral outcomes of all children, including students living in poverty, English language learners, and students with disabilities, including those with significant disabilities and support needs.

The Zero Project, an international non-governmental organization, monitors the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This summer, the organization issued an international call for innovative policies in inclusive education. After being nominated, TASH’s work was passed through to the final stage of recognition.

Jenny Stonemeier, TASH’s education policy director and Barb Trader, TASH’s executive director will present their work at the 2016 Zero Project Conference. The conference will take place February 10-12, 2016 at the United Nations Office in Vienna, Austria.

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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.

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