



## **Pillar Church of Okinawa Church Planting Residency**

### **About this Role**

Pillar Church of Okinawa is an Acts 29 network church in Okinawa, Japan. Our church family is made up of people from various denominational and religious backgrounds who are on mission together as disciples who make disciples. Pillar was planted in 2016, and currently about 250 adults and children worship Jesus at our gatherings on Sunday morning. In November 2018, we launched Gospel to Okinawa (GTO), an initiative aimed at catalyzing gospel-centered church planting in Okinawa.

This residency is designed to help the resident cultivate pastoral experience, develop a robust philosophy of ministry for church planting, gain practical skills for church planting and to assess the resident's gifting and skills as a future church planter. We are primarily looking for residents who are seeking to plant new Japanese congregations in Okinawa prefecture.

### **Description**

The residency is intended to last 2-3 years. At the conclusion, the ideal candidate would transition to the role of church planting partner, staff member at Pillar Okinawa, or both, depending on the gifting of the candidate and the needs of the church at that time.

The resident will work closely with the lead pastor and church staff, with opportunities to interact with church elders, Gospel to Okinawa cohort participants, and Japanese pastors. Ministry training will be offered through A29 Equip, Pastor Guide, and Gospel to Okinawa cohorts. Guided training in all areas of church ministry and mission will be offered.

This position will require a bi-vocational approach, ideally raising support, having a working spouse, or finding part-time work near the Okinawa city community. The residency itself will be about 30 hours per week. There will be a living stipend of \$2,500/mo provided for the duration of the residency, as well as a financial commitment from Pillar Okinawa to continue supporting the church planter in the early phases of a newly planted church.

### **Who would make an ideal candidate for this position?**

- Someone who feels called to plant a church in the next 3 years.
- Someone with advanced Japanese language ability and intermediate English ability

- Someone who has some theological or ministry education, and is looking for hands on ministry experience, including preaching, leading missional communities, leading serving teams,
- Someone who has consistent service within the church. Preaching experience is a plus.
- Someone who is passionate about the gospel spreading in Japan through church planting.
- Someone who is humble, teachable, and passionate about personal, professional, and spiritual development.
- Someone who is willing to take on many of the behind-the-scenes administrative tasks involved in the operation of the church and church planting initiatives.
- Someone who joyfully affirms Pillar Church of Okinawa's [distinctives](#) and [statement of faith](#).

We encourage you check out [www.pillarokinawa.com](http://www.pillarokinawa.com) for more information about our church.