

# **EFCA Hawaii District**

## **Church Planting Financial Policy**

Approved April 29, 2005

### **Philosophy:**

The EFCA Hawaii District will provide approved new church plants in Hawaii with specific support for a definite time period. Our purpose is to give sufficient support to meaningfully assist new churches in their initial development stages, without creating dependence on, or control by, the District.

### **When Training Support Begins:**

Support for a new church plant will begin after the lead planter has –

1. Completed the self assessment tool,
2. Has been evaluated by the District's Church Plant Assessment Team, and
3. Has been interviewed by the District Superintendent and the District's Church Planting Coordinator.

After God has brought mutual confirmation of the planter's call to the work under consideration, the District will proceed with the following initial assistance –

- We will provide a Church Planter's Toolkit,
- We will fund the cost of attending a Church Planter's Boot Camp approved by the District, and
- We will provide a Church Planter's Coach for regularly scheduled meetings for encouragement, accountability and coaching.

### **When Financial Support Begins:**

The financial support process begins when the Church Planting proposal is submitted to, and approved by, the District Board.

The new church plant then begins in the form of prayer support and vision-casting in District churches, team recruitment and training, outreach bible studies, and establishment of a Church office (usually in the lead planter's home). This is usually a 3 to 6 month process. The church planter is normally supported by outside employment during this initial period.

Monthly financial support from the District begins concurrently with the first church plant Sunday worship service. This typically occurs about 6 months into the planting process. District financial support generally continues, as needed, for a maximum of two years.

Because each church plant situation is unique, the District maintains a flexible approach to the amount of support that will be provided. In all cases, the agreed-upon amount will be confirmed in writing with the lead planter before any payments are made by the District.

Outlined below are two typical support scenarios used by the District. The District Board will prayerfully consider any special circumstances that might necessitate a modified approach.

#### **Support A**

- The church plant has the financial support of a strong mother church,
- A committed and giving core of ministry partners is already present, and
- Start-up funds can/will be raised by the planter through the mother church (or other sources).
- The District will provide \$500 per month of financial support for up to 24 months.

#### **Support B**

- The church planter is expected to transition from outside employment to full-time pastor with appropriate church-funded compensation within the two-year period of District support. If a mother church is involved, it would be expected to also provide financial assistance to the planter.
- The District will provide up to \$10,000 in start-up funds, plus
- Monthly support amounts of \$1,000 for the first 3 months, \$750 per month for the next 3 months, and \$500 per month for the final 18 months of a 24 month support period.