

A Church Planting Agreement Between  
**INTERNATIONAL BAPTIST CHURCH OF BERLIN**  
Rothenburgstraße 12a-13, 12165 Berlin  
and  
**Ryan Taylor and Lydia Ruth Whitley**

A successful church plant should have a well-developed and healthy partnership with an established church. We, the church planters, wish to partner with the International Baptist Church of Berlin (ICB) to plant a new international church in Berlin.

1. Mother Church - Daughter Church Relationship:

1.1. According to the Mother-Daughter Church regulations from the German Baptist Convention (Bund Evangelisch-Freikirchlicher Gemeinden - BEFG), the Daughter Church exists within the legal entity of ICB - Evangelisch-Freikirchlichen Gemeinde International Baptist Church Berlin (Baptisten) K.d.ö.R. For more information, see the document entitled "Ordnung für Zweiggemeinden" from the BEFG. The Daughter Church will not be a campus of ICB, but instead a new church in strong partnership with ICB.

1.2. The Daughter Church has autonomy in her structure, ministry and daily organization of as defined in her church vision profile and agreed upon with ICB. To maintain a partnership with autonomy, the Daughter Church agrees to work in harmony with and not against the beliefs, principles and doctrine of faith statement of ICB as defined in the ICB Church Constitution.

1.3. ICB will maintain this relationship with the Daughter Church until the Daughter Church becomes organizationally and financially autonomous. The pastors from both churches will meet once a year to evaluate goals and progress regarding full autonomy.

1.4. The daughter church has autonomy regarding membership within her congregation. The memberships of the Mother and Daughter Churches will be kept separate throughout the duration of their relationship (see BEFG's Ordnung für Zweiggemeinden, Section 13-6).

1.5. Any full time pastoral hirings and/or firings of the daughter church must be made in cooperation with ICB for the duration of the partnership.

2. Legal Support:

2.1. For the duration of the partnership the Daughter Church has all legal rights and privileges of ICB. As such, she will work in partnership with the International Baptist Convention (IBC) and the BEFG. This provides the Daughter Church with validity in the local community and with the German government.

2.2. In the event that the Daughter Church is unable to become autonomous, or the project ends for any reason prematurely, ICB will assist the Daughter Church in ending the project well and recommend the pastor(s) to appropriate ministry opportunities.

3. Financial Support: [Note their FULLY FUNDED status](#)

3.1. The Daughter Church will direct all finances through ICB to maintain clear and transparent standing in financial matters. This includes salaries, tithes and offerings, spending, reimbursements and any other financial matters.  
The Daughter Church will have her own account(s) set up within the financial structure of ICB.

3.2. The Daughter Church will develop her own budget each year. This budget must be approved by ICB through the duration of the partnership.

3.3. The Daughter Church agrees to give 5% of tithes and offerings to ICB for the duration of the financial relationship as compensation for the mother churches legal and financial support.

3.4. The Daughter Church agrees to give a further 2.5% to the BEFG and 2.5% to the IBC for the duration of the partnership.

4. Spiritual Support:

4.1. The Daughter Church and IBCB agree to support each other spiritually, specifically through regular prayer, encouragement and fellowship.

4.2. The pastor(s) of the Daughter Church will receive monthly coaching with a qualified church planting coach. They will organize their own coaching with assistance from IBCB as needed.

4.3. The pastor of IBCB agrees to be a counselor, mentor, advisor and friend to the pastor(s) of the Daughter Church as they do the work of church planting. The lead pastors of each church will meet once a month for prayer, encouragement, and discussion regarding the church planting project.

4.4. The pastor(s) of the Daughter Church will participate in a yearly ministry review with the assistance of IBCB.

4.5. Each church will regularly highlight the importance of the spiritual partnership with the other church before their respective congregations through prayers, praise, and testimonies to what God is doing through the partnership.

5. Planting Team Support:

5.1. IBCB agrees to work with the Daughter Church to identify 5-8 people to serve for at least two years as an initial Planting Team. This team will agree to support the vision of the Daughter Church through prayer, service, finance, and participations in the Daughter Church's efforts in the local neighborhood. Further information on the responsibilities of the Planting Team may be found in the Planting Team Agreement.

5.2. After the Daughter Church has successfully launched regular worship services (weekly or bi-weekly), the Planting Team will disband. Anyone who wishes to continue working regularly with the Daughter Church may then choose to continue ministry with her.

Affirmation:

The signatures below indicate that this document was reviewed and any questions or discussion documented by the following persons:

_____ IBC Berlin Pastor	_____ City/Date
_____ IBC Berlin Elder	_____ City/Date
_____ Church Planter	_____ City/Date
_____ Church Planter	_____ City/Date