

EPC CHURCH PLANTING TEXAS PROSPECTUS

We are actively targeting Texas for a church planting movement. Texas is the fastest-growing state, closely followed by Florida. Due to its size, we are praying for God's provision in establishing a new presbytery, the Texas Presbytery.

While many cities and towns require new churches, the greatest need appears to be in the metro areas of Dallas and Austin. Additionally, Houston, San Antonio, and other regions and cities are experiencing significant growth and will also be considered.

Given the scale of this vision, we are seeking movement leaders to plant flagship churches that will, in turn, plant additional churches. Partnering with EPC Church Planting is an added benefit as it offers substantial support, including biannual in-person training, coaching, and cohorts. Our goal is to foster a community of planters where no one feels isolated, and every planter is relationally connected and resourced. We are committed to planting gospel-driven, kingdom-minded, holistic, healthy, and reproducing churches led by well-supported planters. This community is led by three experienced church planters: Hunter Bailey, Alfredo Forhans and Richard Rieves. Discover more at www.epchurchplanting.com.

****Austin**:** Austin is the capital of Texas, with a population of approximately one million people. The metropolitan region running eighty miles along I-35 from Austin to San Antonio has a population of five million and is expected to continue growing, which presents a significant opportunity for new church plants.

Austin is a cultural hub filled with a diverse range of artists and is known for its "Keep Austin Weird" motto. Dubbed the "Live Music Capital of the World," it is home to the University of Texas and features a mix of government employees, college students, musicians, high-tech workers, and blue-collar workers.

A planter in Austin should appreciate the local culture while also aiming to deconstruct its idols, offering the hope of Jesus, and drawing connections to the new heaven and new earth.

****Dallas Metro**:** The Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington metro area is home to eight million people, with a median age of thirty-nine and an average household income of eighty-six thousand dollars per year. Approximately four hundred eighteen people move to this area daily. While it is impossible to plant enough churches to keep up with this population growth, we are committed to playing our part and anchoring a movement in the region.

Demographically, the area breaks down as follows: approximately 43.7% White (non-Hispanic), 15.8% Black or African American (non-Hispanic), 13.1% White (Hispanic), 8.5% Two or more races (Hispanic), and 7.5% Asian (non-Hispanic). Overall, Hispanics and Latinos of any race make up about 29% of the total population.

Given these demographics, it makes sense to focus on planting a significant number of Latino/Anglo-led churches. This is a major emphasis for EPC Church Planting as we navigate the linguistic complexities experienced by first-generation Latinos who desire to worship in Spanish and second-generation individuals who prefer English. We are also learning to navigate cultural differences. Ultimately, the gospel serves as the foundation for authentic relationships and community.

The overwhelming need for churches compels us to plant flagship congregations that will rapidly reproduce. While we seek highly capable and visionary planters, we are flexible regarding the church planting model. A highly creative visionary could implement unique approaches that address the needs of the many thirty-somethings who have disengaged from church altogether.

For more information or to express your interest, please reach out to rrieves@epchurchplanting.com.