

LAUNCH

Church Planting Residency



METRO ATLANTA
COLLECTIVE



About Metro Atlanta Collective

MAC is a growing network of planters, pastors, and leaders who serve churches in the Metro Atlanta area. Though historically rooted in the PCA, we are a network of various traditions rooted around reformational commitments. Our purpose is to serve a larger ecosystem of gospel-centered ministry in Atlanta by helping to plant, strengthen, and renew many churches throughout our city-region.

MetroAtlantaCollective.com



Purpose

The MAC Church Planting Residency is a 10-month program that is designed for assessed church planters who are beginning the journey of launching a church plant. The Residency will provide training, support, encouragement, and accountability that will greatly assist with the successful launch of a healthy, sustainable new church.

Prerequisites

The resident will have...

1. successfully completed the Discover Residency (or equivalent)
2. been approved through the MAC Launch Residency Assessment
3. identified the target community for the church plant
4. alignment with the Lausanne Covenant
5. the support of a committed sending church (spiritual, relational, financial)

Annual Schedule

June 1: Deadline for application
July 1: Applicants notified of acceptance
August - May: Monthly gatherings

Launch Residency Model

The residency is a **cohort** consisting of 3-5 church planters and the Residency Director. This model provides an environment for the planters to learn collaboratively, encourage each other, pray for one another, and develop deep, lifelong relationships.

Cohort Meeting Rhythm

The cohort will meet together physically at least three times a month. Multiple gatherings each month will deepen relationships and contribute to the soul care of the resident.

Second Tuesday

The cohort will participate in the MAC Second Tuesday events where they will benefit from prayer, peer coaching, and training.

Second Wednesday

The cohort will gather with the Residency Director (and other trainers) for a focused time of spiritual development, training, encouragement, and prayer. The Second Wednesday topic will often align with the subject matter presented the previous day.

Fourth Tuesday

The cohort will gather for additional training and prayer.

Personal Study/Preparation

The resident will receive books (and additional training materials) selected to assist in their development as church planters. The expectation is that the materials will be diligently studied and the resident will be prepared to discuss the content at the cohort gatherings.

Monthly Stipend

The resident will be well on their way toward planting a church, therefore the Launch Residency will provide them with a monthly stipend. This will be paid monthly for one year, beginning the first month of the residency.

Training Team

In addition to regular interaction with the Residency Director, the cohort will learn from the large network of pastors, teachers, and industry experts with the MAC collection of churches. In addition to these seasoned trainers, they will also spend time with church planters who are just a few

Retreats and Conferences

Planting a church demands much spiritual and emotional energy, therefore the Launch Residency will provide a marriage retreat for the residents and their wives. The cohort will also attend together at least one conference pertinent to church planting.

Resident's Wives

Churches are not planted by the resident alone, therefore MAC will provide ongoing support and resources specifically for the wives of the residents.

Residency Length

The cohort will meet monthly from August through May. Following the Residency, the cohort will remain connected through the Second Tuesday MAC gatherings and through personal relationships.

Desired Outcomes

Upon completion, each Resident can expect ...

1. a deepened relationship with Jesus Christ and a strengthened commitment to his mission through church planting,
2. a broadened knowledge of church planting strategies and operations,
3. a refined proficiency in fund-raising best practices,
4. an enriched grasp of discipleship / multiplication strategies,
5. an improved understanding of preaching principles,
6. a comprehension of core team and leader development principles,
7. a profound camaraderie with a band of like-minded brothers who have one another's backs.

Monthly Gathering Formats

The following is the typical schedule for the monthly gatherings of the cohort from August through May. In addition to these scheduled meetings, the Residency Director (and other MAC-related resources) will be available for one-on-one consultations as needed.

Second Tuesday

MAC Network Meeting

10 - 11am	Prayer and Worship
11am - Noon	Peer Coaching*
Noon - 12:45	Lunch and Church Plant Updates
1 - 2pm	Training**
2 - 4pm	Deep Dive into Training Topic

*Peer Coaching: Ministry leaders share one issue for discussion and coaching around the table.

**Training is provided by experts and geared toward church planting topics.

Second Wednesday

Cohort, Residency Director, and Subject Matter Experts

10am - Noon	Soulcare and Prayer
Noon - 2pm	Lunch and Training
2pm - 4pm	Church Plant Snapshots [or Other Training]
4pm	Provide Materials for Next Meeting

Fourth Tuesday

Cohort, Residency Director

11am - 2pm	Touchpoint and Prayer over Lunch
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Focused Topics

The following is a list of some of the topics that will be addressed in cohort gatherings.

- Spiritual Health
- Emotional Health
- Healthy Marriage
- Healthy Family
- Disciple-making
 - Evangelism
 - Discipleship
- Team Building
- Leadership
- Preaching Principles
 - Gospel-Centeredness
 - Sermon Preparation Rhythms
- Church Operations
- Fund-Raising Principles
- Church Multiplication
- Time Management



Launch Residency Checklist

To prepare for planting the church, the Launch Residency will advise the planter in the completion of the following necessary tasks:

- **Exegeting the Context of the Church**
- **Establishing Critical Infrastructure**
 - Becoming a 501c(3) Organization
 - Bookkeeping
 - Developing a Website / Branding
 - Subscribing to CCLI
 - Submitting IRS Forms
 - Obtaining Insurance
 - Securing a Meeting Location
 - Purchasing Equipment
- **Establishing Critical Ministry Systems**
 - Volunteer Recruitment [Management Model and Tools]
 - Children's Ministry
 - Worship and Prayer
 - Set-up and Tear-down
 - Hospitality / Guest Services / Connecting
 - Small Groups / Discipleship Groups / Missional Communities
 - Outreach [Local / Global / Biblical Justice / Etc.]
 - Leadership Meetings [Elders / Deacons / Staff / Etc.]
- **Establishing Church Governance**
 - Establishing Accountability
 - Establishing a Church Oversight Structure

Launch Resident Profile

The ideal candidate for this Launch Residency will have ...

- **Proven Ministry and Leadership Experience**
 - At least five years ministry experience
 - At least twenty-five years old
 - Proven experience ministering to adults
- **Proven Character**
 - Solid References
 - Humble, Persevering, Responsible
 - Emotionally Healthy
 - Free From Addictions
 - Healthy Marriage and Family Life
 - In Accountable Relationships
- **A Reputation as Theologically Grounded**
- **A Reputation as a Solid Communicator of God's Word**
- **A Reputation as Spiritually Vibrant**
- **Proven Recruiting / Gathering Abilities**
- **A Reputation as a Clear Thinker**
- **A Commitment to Planting in the Metro Atlanta area**
- **An Intention to Plant a Church in About a Year**

Expectations and Commitments

1. Maintain a vibrant walk with Jesus as demonstrated by spending time alone with God, sharing his faith regularly, and participating in worship.
2. Be known by and accountable to others.
3. Be faithful to attend all Launch Residency events.
4. Be faithful to complete assignments in a timely manner.
5. Have a teachable spirit and be able to receive feedback graciously.
6. Actively and aggressively move toward planting a church - committing 4-5 days a week toward church planting activities.
7. Maintain a healthy relationship with the sending church.
8. Sign a Covenant Form that affirms the above commitments.

A resident who does not abide by these commitments may be removed from the Residency.

Sending Church Relationship

We believe strongly in the “churches planting churches” model and therefore each resident should be aligned with a sending church that will provide spiritual, relational, and financial support to the planter.

Sending Church Responsibilities

The sending church is responsible to provide the Resident with ...

1. mentoring by a senior church leader.
2. access to department heads / team leaders for questions and advice.
3. opportunities to serve [in an appropriate capacity] in the worship service several times throughout the year.
4. an invitation to some staff and elder/board meetings for educational and relational purposes.
5. an opportunity to cast vision to church members for the purpose of gathering support in one of three ways: **Prayer Support, Financial Support, or Being on the Launch Team.**
6. prayer support from church leadership and community.

Resident’s Commitment to the Sending Church

The Resident is responsible to provide the sending church with ...

1. a motivated, humble church planter who is proactive in supporting the church, modeling a missional lifestyle.
2. a monthly, written report outlining the progress made toward planting the church.
3. timely presence at all agreed upon events and meetings.
4. a well-prepared teacher/preacher for mutually agreed upon events [several times throughout the year].



**METRO
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Vision

Our vision is to glorify God and help Atlanta flourish through a movement of gospel-centered, healthy, multiplying churches.

Mission

Our mission is to cultivate a network of leaders who **plant, strengthen, and renew** churches throughout Atlanta.

Values

Kingdom-minded
Gospel-centered
Leader-focused
Culturally-engaged
Prayerfully-confident
Theologically-grounded
Contextually-adaptable

Beliefs

Our beliefs are consistent with the Apostles’ and Nicene creeds and are committed to the five “solos” of the Reformation:

Christ Alone
Grace Alone
Faith Alone
Glory of God Alone
Scripture Alone.

Contact Us

Ryan Johnson | Executive Director
Ryan@MetroAtlantaCollective.com

Tim Beard | Regional Coordinator
Tim.Beard@gmail.com

