

The background of the right side of the cover is an aerial photograph of a town nestled in a valley. The town is surrounded by lush green hills and fields. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. A white diagonal shape on the left side of the cover partially obscures the image. A semi-transparent dotted pattern is overlaid on the bottom right portion of the image.

LAUNCH

TWO YEARS ON MISSION IN EUROPE

**KANDERN,
GERMANY**
with Bob and Elena
Gonzalez

Program Overview

Three Years to Make an Eternal Impact

The Launch program is specifically designed to expose participants to all aspects of what is required to be an effective cross-cultural Gospel worker. It accomplishes this by deploying cohorts of three to six people for 2 years to work alongside some of GEM's most effective missionaries in a variety of strategic locations. You can expect to receive customized training in fund raising, discipleship, church planting, community development and in some cases language learning. In addition to the structured training programs and curated ministry opportunities, each cohort will be hosted by a dedicated mentor couple or team whose goal is to personalize the experience for you and help you become as effective as possible. While this program is designed as a structured 2-year missions experience, those who feel God's further call on their lives can transition to full time service at numerous points along the way.

Program Snapshot:

Year 1: Application, Orientation, Fundraising Training, and Coaching.

Year 2: Launch to Europe, Cultural and Language Training, Discipleship training, active participation in ministry.

Year 3: Transition from training to more focused ministry in a variety of settings.

Discover Kandern



Kandern is a small community nestled in the foothills of the Black Forest with a surprising global reach.

Home to the world-famous Black Forest Academy, **Kandern has a unique collection of ministries and missionaries from all across the world.** Opportunities exist to work directly with some of GEM's Europe-wide ministries like our technology team eDot, one of our film crews – GEMStone Media, and GEM Teams, our short-term missions wing. In addition, you can work alongside some of our behind-the-scenes administrative and financial departments.

However, the opportunities are not just internal. **Placements exist at local churches, volunteering with BFA in youth work and sports, and evangelistic opportunities in nearby Frieberg and Basel.**

What makes Kandern unique?

Diversity

From the people you will work alongside to the myriad ministry opportunities this location will give you a rich and diverse introduction to cross-cultural ministry.

Apprenticeship

“Hands on” would be a great descriptor of this location. “Developmental” would be another. While you will be trained in language and discipleship many of the ministry opportunities available to you can be experienced immediately working alongside long-term missionaries and nationals who will show you how and let you try.

Multilingual

Language is the key to the soul of a people, and in this location not only will you have a rich experience as you learn German, but you will also be learning the language alongside of people from all over the world. Language school is not just a course it is a key ministry opportunity.

Program Specifics

Program Cost Breakdown

Monthly Costs

Salary/Housing - \$2825

Insurance/Benefits - \$725

Mission/Ministry - \$650

Total Per Month - \$4,200

Launch Fund

Housing/Set-up - \$7500

Training/Language - \$6500

Travel/Moving/Visas - \$4500

Total Launch Fund - \$18,500

- Cohort of 5-7 people
- Opportunity to learn German up to level B2.
- You will be discipled and given the opportunity to disciple others.
- Behind the scenes understanding of the inner workings of Non-Profits
- Work alongside local churches in youth work, community development, and refugee response
- Opportunity to participate on various short-term teams around Europe.

Meet

Bob and Elena Gonzalez



Hi! We are Bob and Elena Diaz Gonzalez and have been with GEM for 24 years now. As you are considering your next steps, I know the unknown can be ominous. So let me try to paint you a picture of what you can expect in Kandern, Germany. Kandern is located near Switzerland and France and lies in southern Germany because of its location we have many different ministry opportunities that can be presented to you.

Located right here in Kandern is Black Forest Academy. Close to 300 students attend here each year and there is always something to do whether you enjoy leading small groups or helping with sports. There's a wide range of activities. However, working with junior high and high school students isn't for everyone. Some other ministry opportunities include working with local churches, getting involved with local ministries or joining a local club and doing relational evangelism. Germans are very big on being in a club and there is a club for everything. Another opportunity is working with the many refugees in this area. There are several missionaries here who are trying to organize different services and opportunities to connect with the immigrants. Right now we have both Syrian and Ukrainian immigrants in our area. As you can see Kandern can offer a great view of what being a missionary is like. It's a wonderful place to get your feet wet and be stretched by God in the process. We are excited to walk long side of you as you explore this adventure. We love seeing God at work and seeing His kingdom expand.