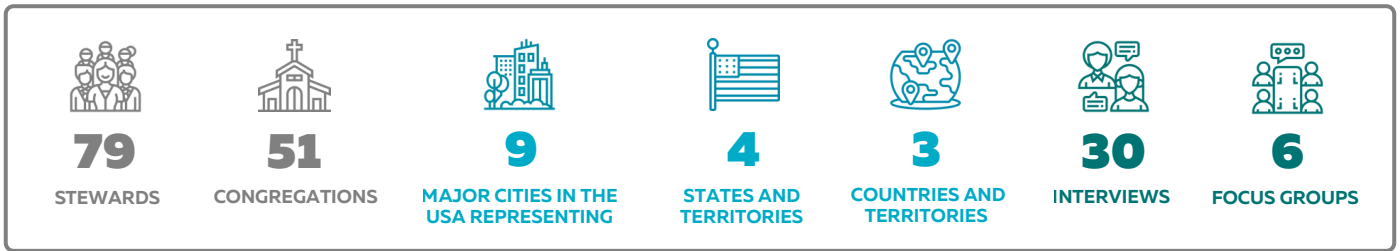





# CHINESE PROGRAMS RESEARCH

GTP aims to strengthen a community of thriving Chinese-speaking congregations in the USA by aligning them with ECFA standards and ensuring faithful stewardship of mission and values. In this 2025 study, we used qualitative methods to capture nuanced cross-regional dynamics shaping Chinese-speaking congregations.



 GTP will create **toolkits** coupled with **teaching and training** to help Chinese-speaking stewards to act on **seven priorities** with related **next steps** from 2026-2028.

## PRIORITIES

-  **Emerging adults disengage.** Churches meeting this group digitally, relationally, and vocationally create spaces that engage them despite life transitions.
-  **Rigid governance creates bottlenecks and stifles growth.** Sharing leadership and empowering younger voices sparks innovation.
-  **Outreach remains event-based.** But congregations that move toward needs - both geographically and in life situation - grow outreach effectiveness.
-  **"Work as ministry" underdeveloped.** Yet a trend of entrepreneurship in ministry has surfaced that integrates faith and work, but it lacks structure and support.
-  **Migration continually alters church composition.** It creates challenges of turnover but also opportunities to disciple newcomers and send them out.
-  **Low awareness of ECFA standards of responsible stewardship.** This emerges as a solution to address the lack of transparency and need to restore trust.
-  **No Chinese-speaking congregations have ECFA accreditation.** But churches that follow standards report growth in governance, giving, and service.

## NEXT STEPS

-  **Build relationships with emerging adults.** Prioritize belonging and digital culture as decisive levers to sustain faith through the changing seasons of life.
-  **Promote governance and leadership development pipelines.** Include younger voices and mentorship to distribute responsibility beyond a single pastor.
-  **Unite generations in mission.** Strengthen outreach in communities through partnerships that serve tangible needs in the neighborhood.
-  **Embrace missional entrepreneurship.** Build an ecosystem for workplace discipleship and social innovation that links with the faith and work movement.
-  **Form immigrant integration pathways.** Target students, professionals, families, and asylum seekers so churches serve as spiritual homes and cultural bridges.
-  **Offer contextualized training for Chinese-speakers.** Help churches and ministries grasp stewardship standards that safeguard mission and integrity.
-  **Provide pathway to ECFA accreditation.** Offer governance templates, financial tools, and coaching to strengthen credibility with members and partners.

**Chinese-speaking stewards can strengthen relationships and restore trust by taking these steps.** Toolkits, teaching, and training will help link generations and create thriving congregations that bless communities.