

## Mike Holland

Born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts, Mike Holland is an American entrepreneur, teacher and philanthropist. In Japan, Holland is a national board member of *KIF Japan* responsible of operations in Okinawa. At KIF (Koyamada International Foundation), Holland is Chairman of Asia Pacific Committee on an international level. Since he joined KIF Japan in 2012, he has held a number of great community relation events in culture and education all over Okinawa in partnerships with local Okinawa governments, American Consulate-General, U.S. military and other community leaders.

Soon after moving to Okinawa in August of 2003, Holland started his own company called *English Teachers in Okinawa* (ETIO). ETIO provides a full range of language support services; in addition to English lessons, they also offer Japanese lessons, professional translation and interpreting services in several languages, internships, etc.

In 2004, Holland joined the *American Chamber of Commerce in Okinawa* (ACCO) until 2016. As an active member, he has held several positions; Membership Chairman, Special Events Chairman, Education Chairman, & Board of Governor. One of the things he is very proud of is the fact that as a foreigner in Okinawa, he started an official volunteer program with the association for the world's largest *Tug of War* in Naha. Holland started this program almost a decade ago and to this day the ACCO still takes over 100 military personnel as official volunteers for the event.

In 2006, he was one of several people who started a non-profit organization *Okinawa Development International Council*, where he was an international exchange director from 2006 to 2010. In 2010, he became the first ever American to become a member of the *Naha Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Group* (YEG). He was an active member until 2014.

With *JCI Okinawa* in 2011, Holland had worked with several JCI Okinawa members and held an event on Camp Shield's in Okinawa City and 600+ attended. In 2014, he also worked with some of the JCI Okinawa members as part of the *English Networking Dinners*, a networking event he created as well as an event at Marier Oakpine in Naha and 250+ people attended.

In 2018, Holland became business partners with *Cruise Port Navigation* (CPN), a travel services company based in Los Angeles, California, with a branch office in Odawara, Japan. The mission is to serve cruise ship customers with private guides, and other services such as pocket Wi-Fi and SIM cards. In 2017, Holland became the co-owner of a company called *Oyatsu Box*, a Japanese food box deliver company, located in Okinawa. Customers receive monthly Japanese snacks delivered to their doorsteps.

Holland has received multiple Certificates of Appreciation from the ACCO for participating in community relation events throughout Okinawa as well as from the Naha Giant Tug of War Association, military community and support organizations – Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS), 18th Force Support Squadron, Kadena (18th FSS), Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS), and United Service Organizations (USO) Okinawa.

Prior to moving to Japan, Holland graduated from California State University, Bakersfield in 1993. After college, he lived in Denmark for almost 5 years. After living and traveling around in Europe, he moved to Takasaki in Gunma Prefecture, Japan in August of 1998. Holland worked as an English teacher at NOVA. Holland currently resides in Okinawa, Japan.

To contact Mike Holland, please email [info@englishteachersinokinawa.com](mailto:info@englishteachersinokinawa.com) or go to [www.englishteachersinokinawa.com](http://www.englishteachersinokinawa.com)