

Employee Spotlight: Haley Stichman



Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

I was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, San Mateo specifically. Moved to West Michigan in April 2019. I currently live in Cascade with my husband and two kids. We recently purchased a new home in the City of Grand Rapids so we are looking forward to exploring the Riverside Gardens/Creston neighborhood this summer.

I graduated from San Jose State University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Management. When I moved to West Michigan, I sought jobs in the non-profit arena, which solidified my passion for community centered work. After working as an AmeriCorps member with Dwelling Place

of Grand Rapids' Community Building and Engagement department, I had the opportunity to serve the Ada Township community as it's Downtown Development Authority Director for 3 years.

In my spare time, you'll find me spending time at the library, park or on the trails with my family. I love finding new local places to experience. This summer I'm looking forward to visiting farmers markets.

What is your position at Kent County and what individuals do you work with?

I'm the Kent County Community Development Coordinator and I administer the County's Brownfield Redevelopment Authority as well as it's Agricultural Preservation programming.

What are two or three things that staff should know about your role?

I'm a very collaborative person and I will certainly bring that into my role with Kent County so I'm always open to opportunities to collaborate across departments where our goals may align.

All questions regarding agricultural preservation and brownfield redevelopment/housing development can be directed to me.

What is the most rewarding part of your job? What is the most challenging?

The most rewarding part of my job is being able to serve all of the wonderful communities within Kent County. I get to engage with representatives from a wide range of industries and it's fulfilling to get to be out in the different communities learning about...

Employee Spotlight: Haley Stichman

Continued from page 1...

their priorities. With these experiences there are certainly challenges that come with navigating multiple perspectives.

Do you have any interesting/fun stories about your experience working with co-workers or clients/residents?

One of my favorite experiences thus far has been coordinating the Agribusiness Tour. I enjoyed having an opportunity to engage with both the Board of Commissioners and representatives from the agriculture sector.

