

Aaron Hufford

Chief of Staff at the City of Hamilton, Ohio



Aaron graduated from WSU with his **M.S. degree in Social and Applied Economics** in 2013. He also holds a **B.S. degree in Business Economics** from WSU, and pursued the **Combined undergraduate/graduate program**. Aaron received an *Outstanding Graduate Student Award in 2012* and a continuing undergraduate student scholarship from the Economics Department in 2011.

After his graduation from our M.S. program Aaron went on to work for the City of Hamilton's Economic Development Department as an Earl Brush Fellow (2013-2014). Aaron continued there as a Business Development Specialist, later as an Assistant to the City Manager until 2016, and as a Senior Analyst until 2018. While in those positions, he developed the City's first Labor Market Analysis in conjunction with the UC Economics Center. He led effort on application for Neighborhood Initiative Program and was awarded \$2 million grant for the Butler County Land Bank. He also assisted with an application to the State of Ohio Capital Budget, and was awarded \$100,000 for the development of an advanced manufacturing lab in conjunction with universities and the startup ecosystem. Finally, he helped with the envisioning and development of a green advanced manufacturing business incubator, the Hamilton Mill. In his current position as a Chief of Staff, Aaron develops and manages stakeholder relationships, and oversees projects on economic development and blight reduction strategies. He is also involved in budgeting, communications, policy research, and quality of life initiatives.



Jordan Schotz

Workforce Development Specialist,
City of Hamilton, Ohio



Jordan Schotz works in the Economic Development department at the City of Hamilton, Ohio. After her graduation in 2016 with a Wright State University **M.S. degree in Social and Applied Economics**, Jordan was part of the *Russell P. Price Fellowship Program* in the City of Hamilton's Economic Development Department, and then continued there as a Workforce Development Specialist. Her unit works to bring new businesses and residents to the community, and is also involved in a number of quality of life projects. As the Workforce Development Specialist, Jordan helps businesses identify and recruit new talent, and works with high school students who are transitioning directly into the workforce. Jordan also creates materials for businesses, developers, and visitors who are looking to make an investment in our community. This includes producing annual publications. Finally, Jordan tracks and manages data for the Economic Development department, including investment numbers, job creation, salary, new business prospects, and more.