



Craig Hatch, President and CEO of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and Experience Jackson

BIO

Craig attended Hanover Horton Schools and then went on to Central Michigan University, graduating with a degree in Business Administration and Commercial Event Management. After graduation Craig started his career at Michigan International Speedway as Operations Manager, staying in this position until 1999 when he was promoted to Director of Operations for AutoClub Speedway in Southern California.

In 2006 he decided to leave the beach and his career to move home to Jackson, put down roots and be an active part of his home community. For six years Craig contracted for organizations such as the NFL, NCAA, Republican National Convention, World Equestrian Games, and Gold Cup Soccer as a senior planner and operator for events around the country such as the Super Bowl, and Final Four. While managing his contracting career Craig also helped manage and had ownership in a local family business. (JJ's Meats in Horton Michigan)

In 2013 Craig returned to Michigan International Speedway as Senior Director and eventually Vice President, leading Operations, Facilities, Business Development, Government/Community Affairs, and Emergency Management. In 2016 Craig married the love of his life Taryn Hatch and welcomed her two children Haley and Brady Applegate into his life, and they have completed their family, adopting over the years, their dogs Cora and Sophie, cat Gato, and most recently from Cascades Humane Society, cat Sushi.

Throughout his career Craig has enjoyed community involvement and volunteering for organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and by serving on the Board of the Anchor Initiative. He looks forward to the collaborative opportunities and implementing new ideas to continue the positive growth and continued success of Jackson.

Craig on Jackson "Jackson is where I was born and raised. While school and jobs have taken me away, my heart has always brought me back and I am excited for the opportunity to directly impact the success of our Jackson Community, Businesses, and nonprofits."

Craig on the team he is joining "It is very exciting to join such a dedicated and talented team. "

Craig on his new role "Mindy and the team have built such a great organization and culture. I am very proud and excited to start my career with The Chamber and Experience Jackson."