



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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## **COUNTY APPOINTS NEW HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY DIRECTOR** ***Nick Macchione Named HHS Agency Director Following Jean Shepard's Retirement***

San Diego County Chief Administrative Officer Walt Ekard announced today that Nick Macchione has been appointed as the new County Health and Human Service Agency's (HHS) director, effective June 5, when Jean Shepard retires.

"The Director of HHS is a critical position for the County of San Diego and the region as a whole. Nick Macchione brings tremendous leadership skills, knowledge and experience to the position," said Greg Cox, Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors.

Macchione has served as an Agency Deputy Director/Regional General Manager for the past 10 years. He has a diverse professional background including work experience with universities, academic medical centers, for-profit and non-profit healthcare corporations, political advocacy groups, and the County of San Diego.

"Nick has done a tremendous job as a Regional General Manager for HHS for many years; he is the right individual to take command of this extremely important position," said County Chief Administrative Officer Walt Ekard.

"I am truly honored to serve the residents of San Diego County in this capacity," said Nick Macchione. "HHS staff work every day to improve the health, safety and well-being of children, families and seniors. My goal is to continue building on the Agency's foundation of operational excellence and partnerships with the community in serving our residents."

Macchione earned an Executive Master's of Public Health in Healthcare Administration & Policy from Columbia University. He also earned a Master's degree in management from New York University and a B.A. in biology from Rutgers State University. Macchione also holds three professional fellowships in the fields of healthcare administration, public health, and community health.

The Health and Human Services Agency Director is responsible for an annual budget of \$1.8 billion and a workforce of more than 5,600 employees. Macchione will implement policy directives of the Board of Supervisors and the County's Chief Administrative Officer, and manage the day-to-day operations and functions of the Agency, which is one of five groups or divisions of County government.

Jean Shepard is retiring from the County after 32 years of service.

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