



County of San Diego

NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE
AGENCY DIRECTOR

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 206, MAIL STOP P-501
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101-2417
(619) 692-8353 • FAX (619) 515-6556

NICK YPHANTIDES, MD
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

Date: April 12, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

Please receive this enthusiastic and whole hearted endorsement of the Axene Health Partners (AHP) Team.

I serve as the Chief Medical Officer of San Diego County and our 3.3 million residents which represent nearly 1% of America's total population.

Being proactive and decisive in response to the Covid-19 Pandemic has been part of our regional strategy and approach prior to and since declaring a regional Public Health Emergency on February 14, 2020.

We are passionate about being data driven and outcomes base and in light of that have been so fortunate to have the consulting support of AHP with our predictive modeling strategies for both maintaining and the anticipation of cautious and gradual loosening of the NPIs we have had in place since March 17, 2020.

It has been an incredible experience working with Dave Axene and his team. When asked to assist the County of San Diego in a time of crisis, Axene Health Partners offered an abundance of expertise in healthcare-related analytics, were eager to learn and collaborate, and always seemed to ask the right questions. Perhaps the most impressive quality of Dave's team was the work produced limited time. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the San Diego County Emergency Operations Center was operating on a "need it yesterday" pace. It was very impressive when Dave was able to demonstrate the first version of their COVID-19 model in less than 24 hours from the initial planning discussion. From that original demonstration, they have been consistently responsive in updating the model based on user feedback. The most valuable component of the Axene model may be their ability to account for various interventions in sequential order with each intervention accounting for the effects of previous interventions. We look forward to continued collaboration with the AHP team because we consider them an extremely valuable asset to our work.

My lead epidemiologist Dr. Joshua Smith is willing to be contacted at joshua.smith@sdcounty.ca.gov Likewise I am more than willing to answer any further questions at nick.yphantides@sdcounty.ca.gov Please do not hesitate to also reach out by phone to my personal cell at 760-443-7491.

These are unprecedented times and I love to say that we are living and making history together. Having the right consultants available during a time such as this has been a tremendous strategic advantage for our entire San Diego County team.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Respectfully in all that matters,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N. Yphantides', enclosed within a large, loopy circular flourish.

Nicholas "dr. Nick" Yphantides, MD, MPH
Chief Medical Officer
County of San Diego