CRITICAL SERVICES

Provide space for critical/temporary food, sanitation, health, medical, or social services distribution centers.

CONTEXT
- Near key essential destinations such as markets, clinics, community centers, and transit stops.
- Adjacent to hospitals or medical centers that require additional capacity.

KEY STEPS
- Identify and prioritize relevant locations based on city demographic/health data and medical center locations.
- Work with local medical centers to forecast where expanded capacity might be needed.
- Fully or partially close streets to erect tents, distributions centers, or mobile stations.

TIMELINE: Days to weeks.
DURATION: Hours, days, weeks, or months.

San Francisco, CA, USA

A sanctioned tent encampment for people experiencing homelessness in San Francisco provides physical distance markers for tents and amenities.

Credit: Justin Sullivan/Getty Images
### Planning
- Identify which services are the highest priority for each neighborhood/medical center.
- Clarify the most relevant areas and locations that can be converted (for hours, days, or months) to offer required services.
- Consider tents, centers, and stations, as well as mobile clinics.
- Provide clear information on the provided services, locations, times, and eligibility for access at each location.
- Consider food distribution directly to single parents and elderly, pregnant, disabled, and immuno-compromised individuals to reduce demand or transmission on site.
- Plan safe transportation routes between isolation or medical centers and testing or medical stations.
- Consider access to power or space for generators that might be needed for medical equipment, refrigeration of food items, and lighting and other electronics.

### Engagement
- Engage with hospitals to extend testing or treatment capacity into adjacent streets.
- Partner with community centers, and local residents and businesses, to set up temporary stations, as needed.
- Partner with mutual aid organizations, stakeholders, and advocates to place flyers or safely contact local residents.

### Design + Implementation
- Consider full or partial street closures, sidewalk extensions, or parking lanes to locate the offered service. Provide physical separation and consider using traffic-calming strategies when tents or stations are adjacent to vehicular traffic.
- Provide adequate space and markings for people receiving and waiting for the service to respect physical distancing requirements.
- Use temporary signage, in multiple languages if needed, to highlight the station and service.

### Monitoring
- Key criteria: crowding in waiting areas, demand and capacity of services.
- Interview stakeholders and qualify which services are most in demand to determine adjustments.

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**São Caetano, Brazil**

São Caetano installed hygiene stations near transit stops.

**Lenasia, South Africa**

South Africa expands testing locations with quick-build tents and spread out waiting areas in Lenasia, south of Johannesburg.