

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Mangaung Field Hospital – Bloemfontein Showgrounds

Following the countrywide impact of COVID-19 and the subsequent publishing of disaster management lockdown regulations; healthcare predictions and also the rate of infection-increase, we are now faced with the reality of limited hospital beds in our region. In collaboration with the Free State Department of Health, a part of the showgrounds has been identified as a suitable site with the required infrastructure and services to establish a temporary field hospital for increased hospital bed capacity.

The area of the showgrounds exceeds 330 000m² and only 20% of this area will be used for the hospital. All business activities and auctions on the rest of the showgrounds, will continue as normal and every precaution for public safety has been taken. It is a privilege to contribute to the wellbeing and safety of our community in the Free State.

The Department of Health would like to assure public that all measures will be put in place to minimize disruption of daily activities in and around the Bloem showgrounds. The department will implement high-level security and Infection Control Prevention practices to prevent any risks of exposure to the public.

For any enquiries, please contact the show office at 051-4489894.

**ENDS** 

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