

(f) *Estimated Current Value*

1. The estimated capacity of the 281 detention homes in 1964 is approximately 12,000 (based on data in table 1). Since the average replacement cost is estimated at \$15,000 per bed,¹⁴ the estimated total replacement value of these homes is \$180 million.

2. In 1965, the 400 institutions primarily caring for juvenile delinquents had an estimated total bed capacity of 60,000 (table 2 projected). Based upon a replacement value of \$15,000 per bed (the average construction cost in 1965 estimated by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency), these facilities and structures would have a current value of \$1,050 million.

3. Based on an estimated average replacement cost per institution of \$700,000, the current value of the 1,580 other child welfare facilities is estimated at \$1,106 million. (The average replacement estimate is based on studies of plant evaluation of 43 institutions by the Duke Endowment.¹⁵ This replacement estimate is similar to that obtained by the Child Welfare League of America in its study of 16 residential treatment centers.¹⁶ The replacement value of these 16 facilities was calculated at \$11.8 million, or an average of \$750,000 per institution.)

B. COSTS AND USER CHARGES

1. CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATING COSTS

(a) *Construction Costs*

1. The National Council on Crime and Delinquency has estimated that the current range of construction costs for detention homes is from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per bed of planned capacity.

2. Construction costs vary considerably depending upon such factors as size of institution, region of construction, and type of institution. The National Council on Crime and Delinquency has estimated the 1965 range of construction costs of institutions similar in nature to those for delinquent children are between \$10,000 and \$20,000 per bed of planned capacity.

3. Building costs per square foot (including equipment) vary geographically according to labor costs. The range for other child welfare institutions would be \$15 to \$25 per square foot, according to estimates of specialists in the Children's Bureau and the American Institute of Architects. These estimates include costs of built-in equipment, but the percentage of the total costs which equipment constitutes is not known. Excluded are costs of land acquisition, site development, movable equipment, and furnishings; the specialists estimate the costs per square foot would increase by 10 to 20 percent if these were included.

(b) *Operating Expenses*

(These estimates are for costs of all salaries and expenses, other than for capital improvements.)

1. Detention home consultants estimate that the operational and maintenance costs of child care in detention homes currently range between \$7 to \$35 per day per child (\$5,475 average annually).

¹⁴ Estimate by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

¹⁵ Duke Endowment: *Annual Reports of the Hospital and Orphan Sections*. New York: Duke Endowment, December 1962.

¹⁶ Hylton, Ly'l: *The Residential Treatment Center—Children, Programs, and Costs*. New York: Child Welfare League of America, 1964.