This table can be used to plan for the size and needs of the maternity waiting home and to conduct a cost estimate prior to construction or renovation. Communities should be asked to pledge to provide services and raw materials such as making bricks, hauling sand and gravel, cutting wood, donating labor etc. It has been MWH success is linked to the support of the community – more support means the home is more likely to be successful.

The table below can be used as a planning guide to estimate costs associated with the MWH construction and maintenance.

Planning questions	Response	Assumptions/Comments
How many mothers will sleep in this shelter max per night?		Estimate 10' x6' space for each bed
Does this shelter require a bore hole?		
Does this shelter require ventilated pit latrines? How many?		
Does this space have electrical capacity?		What is needed to connect to electrical source?
Are solar panels required?		
Does this shelter require fencing?		
Does this shelter require a cooking area?		
Will pots, pans and other cooking tools be provided?		
Is there space for a vegetable garden?		
How many storage cabinets/lockers are needed?		
Does this shelter require an ambulance?		

Capital Cost per Facility	Estimated cost	Assumptions Comments
Construction new building		Estimate 10' x6' space for each bed
Transportation of materials		May reduce costs with assistance from community
Labor (hired)		May reduce costs with assistance from community
Beds and mattresses		
Sheets and blankets		

Mosquito nets	
Storage cabinet/ lockers	
Electricity / Solar panels	
Toilets or Ventilated pit latrines	
Water source (piped or well)	
Fencing	
Kitchen /Cooking area	
(stoves, pots, pans, utensils)	
Cooking fuel/charcoal	
Cleaning supplies	
Government fees	
Total Capital per Facility	

Note: some building materials and labor may be donated by community.

Estimated Recurrent Costs per Facility	Estimated cost	Assumptions Comments
Mosquito nets		Will require replacing
Bed linens		Will require replacing
Cook stove maintenance		Will require replacing
Blankets		Will require replacing
Locks for cupboards		Will require replacing
Pots/Pans		Will require replacing
Cleaning supplies		Will require replacing
Routine maintenance		Supplies required and labor from community
Cooking fuel/charcoal (per day)		
Total Recurrent Cost per Month		

Scott NA, Kaiser JL, Vian T, Bonawitz R, Fong RM, Ngoma T, Biemba G, Boyd CJ, Lori JR, Hamer DH, Rockers PC. Impact of maternity waiting homes on facility delivery among remote households in Zambia: protocol for a quasiexperimental, mixed-methods study. BMJ open. 2018 Aug 1;8(8):e022224.