

APPENDIX A: OYO Survey Results

Personal Information

Youth don't have to give us their name on this survey if they don't want to. But giving us their info helps us respond faster if they report something serious. If youth don't include their name or contact info, it might be hard for us to follow up.

To protect confidentiality, we report only aggregated demographic data and do not break down categories with fewer than ten responses. In total, 34 youth completed surveys, 16 youth filled out the survey across the juvenile placements and 18 across child welfare facilities visited. Below, we share the questions as written on the surveys issued to youth. Please take note that the percentages included in the demographic sections combines responses across both child welfare and juvenile justice, unlike percentages given for survey responses in other sections.

1. What is your age?

31 youth responded.

13-14 years old	26%
15-17 years old	55%
18-19 years old	*
Did not respond	*

*Suppressed; less than 10 people

2. What racial-ethnic group(s) do you most identify with? (select all that apply)

30 youth responded.

Black, African American, or of African descent ONLY	60%
Multiracial	*
White	*
Other race	*
Prefer not to answer; Do not identify	*
Did not respond	*

*Suppressed; less than 10 people

3. Do you identify as Hispanic or Latino/a/x/e?

19 youth responded.

Yes	*
No	63%
Prefer no to answer	*
No Answer	79%

4. What is your primary language?

25 youth responded

English	96%
Other	*

5. What is your religion, if any?

21 youth responded.

Muslim	71%
Christian	19%
Other religion	*
No religion	*
Did not respond	61%

*Suppressed; less than 10 people

6. What pronouns do you use for yourself? (select all that apply)

25 youth responded

He	68%
She	28%
They	*
Xe	*
Ze	
Prefer not to answer	*
Prefer to self-select	

7. How do you describe your gender identity?

24 youth responded

Male	72%
Female	24%
Non-binary, genderqueer, genderfluid, or other expansive identities; prefer to self-describe; prefer not to answer	*
Did not respond	3

*Suppressed; less than 10 people

8. Do you identify as transgender? (This means that your identity is different from the sex you were assigned at birth)

28 youth responded

Yes	*
No	96%
No Answer	*

9. How do you describe your sexual orientation?

29 youth responded.

Straight or heterosexual	86%
Bisexual	*

Lesbian or gay; Asexual; Pansexual or other expansive identities; Prefer not to answer	*
Did not respond	*

*Suppressed; less than 10 people

Not all survey question findings were shared. The decision about which survey data to share with the public was based on the overall participant response rate and the significance of the findings.

Section 1: Childline Questions

If youth tell us that if they feel unsafe or have experienced/seen abuse or neglect at their residential placement, it will lead to a mandated report to ChildLine. We ask youth to give us more information about your answers to these questions (1-6).

1. Do you feel safe where you are now?

Facility Type	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	13	81%	Of the 13 youth who responded, 13 youth (100%) said “yes.”
Group Homes	18	18	100%	Of the 18 youth who responded, 12 youth (67%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no.”

2. Have you personally ever experienced abuse by STAFF here? Check all that apply.

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	15	94%	13 youth (87%) said “none.” Those that reported abuse by staff said it was verbal abuse.
Group Homes	18	17	100%	14 youth (82%) said “none.” Those that reported abuse by staff said it was physical and/or verbal abuse.

3. Have you ever seen or heard STAFF abuse ANOTHER YOUTH? (Check all that apply.)

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	15	94%	12 youth (80%) said “none.” Those that reported witnessing abuse by staff said it was verbal abuse.

Group Homes	18	18	100%	16 youth (89%) said “none.” Those that reported witness abuse by staff said it was physical, and/or verbal abuse.
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4. Have YOU PERSONALLY ever been abused by another YOUTH here? (Check all that apply.)

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	15	94%	12 youth (80%) said “none.” Those that reported witnessing abuse by staff said it was verbal abuse.
Group Homes	18	18	100%	14 youth (78%) said “none.” Those that reported witness abuse by staff said it was sexual, physical, and/or verbal abuse.

5. *Have you ever been restrained (when staff puts youth in a hold to stop them from moving) in a dangerous or unsafe way here? Examples: (1) handcuffed in front without a belt; (2) held down for 10+ minutes without changing technique; (3) had weight on your mouth, nose, neck, chest, belly, or back; (4) given meds to calm you down.*

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	13	81%	12 youth (92%) said “never.” A small number of youths said “sometimes.”
Group Homes	18	18	100%	16 youth (89%) said “never.” A small number of youths said, “often” or “sometimes.”

6. Have you ever been kept from having a meal or snack? (Check all that apply.)

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	14	88%	13 youth (93%) said “never.” A small number of youths said “yes.”
Group Homes	18	18	100%	16 youth (89%) said “never.” A small

Section 2: Right to be Treated in a Fair and Respectful Way

We let youth know we likely won’t have to make a ChildLine report for the rest of the survey questions unless they share abuse or neglect. We tell them if they report a rights violation, we have to tell DHS or CBH.

1. Are you ever held alone in a room for 4+ hours against your will (not including sleep)?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
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Juvenile Placements	16	16	100%	12 youth (75%) said “never.” A small number youths said “sometimes” or “often.”
Group Homes	18	18	100%	All 18 youth (100%) said “never.”

2. Have staff punished you with any of the following? (Check all that apply.)

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	16	100%	14 youth (78%) said “none.” A small number of youth said “staff didn’t let me go to school in person” and “they punish me by keeping me in my room or extending my time here.”
Group Homes	18	18	100%	13 youth (81%) said “none.” A small number of youth said “loss of phone calls,” “loss of home passes,” “loss of participation in activities,” and “loss of Wi-Fi.”

Section 3: Right to Have a Plan

1. Did anyone explain to you why you’re at this placement?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	16	100%	10 youth (63%) said “yes.” A small number of you said “no” and “I can’t remember.”
Group Homes	18	15	83%	14 youth (93%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “I can’t remember”

2. Are there any supports that you feel you’re NOT getting or need more of to plan for your return to the community? (Check all that apply.)

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	15	94%	8 youth (53%) said “none.” A small number of youth said “housing,” “employment,” “education,” and “reconnecting with family.”

Group Homes	18	17	94%	9 youth (53%) said “none.” A small number of youths said “housing,” “employment,” “education,” and “reconnecting with family.”
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Section Four: Right to Access a High-Quality and Appropriate Education

1. Do you go to school?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	16	100 %	16 youth (100%) said “yes.”
Group Homes	18	16	89%	14 youth (88%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no.”

2. If not, why not?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	N/A	N/A	All 16 youth did not provide an answer/comment
Group Homes	18	*	*	*

If you don’t go to school right now or haven’t gone to class yet, you can skip the rest of this section. Move to Section 5: Right to Stay Connected and Have Privacy.

3. Where do you go to school RIGHT NOW?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	15	94%	9 youth (60%) reported that they attend the on-the-ground school. A small number of youth said “other” or “school before placement.” This indicated a misunderstanding of the question because all youth in juvenile placement attend the on-the-ground school.
Group Homes	18	13	72%	7 youth (54%) said “new public school.” A small number of youth said “school of origin,” “approved private school,” or provided a response determined to be not applicable to the question.

4. How often do you go to school/class?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	13	81	12 youth (92%) said they attend classes 5+ days a week.
Group Homes	18	12	67%	9 youth (75%) said “5 days a week.” A small number of youth said “3–4 days” or “1–2 days a week.”

5. How long is a normal school day?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	11	69%	11 youth (100%) said “5+ hours.”
Group Homes	18	11	67%	11 youth (91%) said “5+ hours.” A small number of you said “4-5 hours.”

6. Do you have classes in all the main subjects? (English, Math, Science, Social Studies/History)

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	16 youth (93%) said “yes.”
Group Homes	18	14	78%	12 youth (85%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “I don’t know.”

7. How is your school taught?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	15	94%	13 youth (86%) said “teachers in-person.” A small number of youth said “live online classes,” “pre-recorded online classes,” or “independent work.”
Group Homes	18	14	78%	11 youth (78%) said “teachers in-person.” A small number of youth said “live online

				classes,” “pre-recorded online classes,” or “independent work.”
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8. Do you think your current schoolwork is the right grade level for you?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	15	94%	12 youth (80%) said “just right.” A small number of youths said “too easy.”
Group Homes	18	13	72%	8 youth (62%) said “just right.” A small number of youths said “too easy.”

9. Do you have a learning disability or health condition that affects your learning?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	15	94%	10 youth (66%) said “no.” 4 youth (26%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	14	78%	8 youth (57%) said “yes.” 5 youth (35%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “I don’t know.”

10. Do you have an IEP?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	8 youth (50%) said “yes.” 6 youth (37%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	14	78%	8 youth (57%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “I don’t know.”

11. Do you get any other school supports (like a 504 Plan)?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	15	94%	7 youth (46%) said “no.” 7 youth (46%) said “I don’t know.” A small number of youth said “yes.”

Group Homes	18	14	78%	8 youth (57%) said “I don’t know.” A small number of youth said “no” or “yes.”
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12. Do you need more support in school?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	12 youth (75%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes” or “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	14	78%	8 youth (57%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes.”

13. Are you on track to graduate?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	16	89%	9 youth (56 %) said yes. A small amount of youth said “no” or “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	15	83%	7 youth (47%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “I don’t Know.”

14. Are you earning credits towards graduation?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	16	89%	9 youth (56 %) said yes. A small number of youth said “no” and “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	15	83%	7 youth (47%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “I don’t know.”

15. Are you allowed to do any activities or fun things during or after school?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	16	100%	13 youth (81%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “I don’t know.”

Group Homes	18	14	78%	12 youth (85%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “I don’t know.”
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16. Are you an English language learner (you’re still learning it because it’s not your first language)?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	14	88%	11 youth (78%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes” or “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	12	67%	10 youth (83%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes.”

17. Are you in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at school?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	7	44%	A small number of youth said “no” or “yes.”
Group Homes	18	4	22%	All youth who responded said “no.”

18. Do your teachers help you understand school subjects better, knowing that you’re learning English?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	5	44%	A small number of youth said “yes”, “no” or “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	7	28%	A small number of youth said “yes”, “no” or “sometimes.”

Section Five: Right to Stay Connected and Have Privacy

1. Do staff let you talk to your parents/guardians on the phone at least once every 2 weeks, if you want?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	14 youth (88%) said “always.” A small number of youth said “sometimes.”

Group Homes	18	16	89%	15 youth (83%) said “always.” A small number of youth said “sometimes.”
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2. Do staff let you visit with your parents/guardians in person at least once every two weeks, if you want?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	10 youth (63%) said “always.” A small number of youth said, “sometimes” or “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	16	89%	12 youth (80%) said “always.” A small number of youth said, “not yet/30 day review” or “never.”

3. Do staff let you talk to your lawyer when you need to and in private?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	15	94%	12 youth (80%) said “yes.” A small number said “no,” “I don’t know,” or “yes, but not in private.”
Group Homes	18	16	89%	14 youth (93%) said “yes.” A small number of responses were determined to be not applicable to the question.

4. Are you allowed to send/receive mail if you want to (without staff reading/reviewing it)?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	11 youth (69%) said “yes.” A small number said “I don’t know,” or “don’t receive mail.”
Group Homes	18	16	89%	13 youth (81%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “I don’t know” or “don’t receive mail.”

Section Six: Right to Access Health Services

1. When you first got here (in the first 24 hours), did you talk with a staff member about your medical history and needs?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	15 youth (94%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no.”
Group Homes	18	12	89%	12 youth (75%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “I don’t know.

2. Do you think any of your medical treatments or medications are not right or too much?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	9 youth (56%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes,” “sometimes,” or “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	16	89%	10 youth (63%) said “no.” The remaining youth said “yes,” “sometimes,” or provided responses that were determined to be not applicable to the question.

3. Do you have problems getting the medications, treatments, or medical/mental health care that you NEED?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	9 youth (56%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes” or “I don’t know.”
Group Homes	18	15	83%	13 youth (87%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes” or “I don’t know.”

Section Seven: Right to Keep Money and Personal Items Safe

1. Can you access your personal items and/or money at this facility?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
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Juvenile Placements	16	15	94%	A small number of youth reported mixed responses, with “yes,” “no,” and “facility policy doesn’t allow,” and responses determined to not be applicable to the question.
Group Homes	18	16	89%	16 youth (100%) said “yes.”

2. Are you sent care packages?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	11	69%	A majority of youth said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes” or provided responses that were determined to be not applicable to the question.
Group Homes	18	14	78%	11 youth (78%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes,” or “not sent care packages.”

3. Does staff let you use the items in your care packages?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placements	16	9	44%	A small number of youth said “not sent packages,” “never,” “always,” or provided responses that were determined to be not applicable to the question.
Group Homes	18	9	50%	Youth reported mixed responses, with a small number of youth saying “not sent care packages” or “always.”

4. If you are NOT able to use your care package items, does staff tell you why?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
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Juvenile Placements	16	6	38%	A small number of youth said “not sent packages,” “always,” “never,” or “sometimes.”
Group Homes	18	5	28%	A small number of youth said “not sent packages,” “always,” or “sometimes.”

Section Eight: Right to Have Personal Needs Met

1. Do all of your meals include fruit or vegetables?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	15	94%	14 youth (93%) said “yes.”
Group Homes	18	15	83%	11 youth (73% said “yes.” A small number of youth said “sometimes” or “no.”

2. Do the food and mealtimes respect your diet, religion, and/or medical needs?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	15 youth (94%) said “yes,” and a small number of youth said “sometimes.”
Group Homes	18	16	89%	13 youth (81%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “sometimes” or “no.”

3. Are the places where you sleep, eat, learn, use the bathroom, etc. clean (without dirt, rodents, mold, and trash)?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	15	94%	11 youth (73%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “sometimes.”
Group Homes	18	17	94%	15 youth (88%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “yes” or “sometimes.”

4. Are your clothes, sheets, and towels washed at least once a week (by you or staff)?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	16 youth (100%) said “yes.”
Group Homes	18	17	94%	15 youth (94%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “sometimes.”

5. Do you have clothes that fit well and are comfortable, clean, and appropriate for your age and gender?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	14 youth (88%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or provided a response determined to be not applicable to the question.
Group Homes	18	17	94%	14 youth (82%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “sometimes.”

6. Are you missing any personal care or hygiene products that you need? (Example: proper hair care, sanitary products, skincare, etc.)?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	16 youth (100%) said “no.”
Group Homes	18	17	94%	16 youth (94%) said “no.” A small number of youth said “yes.”

7. Are you allowed to practice your religion or faith, if you want to?

	Total Youth Surveyed	Total Youth Responded	Response Rate	Responses
Juvenile Placement	16	16	100%	14 youth (88%) said “yes.” A small number of youth said “no” or “sometimes.”
Group Homes	18	16	94%	16 youth (89%) said “yes.”