



## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE CHILD ADVOCATE

### How do I file a complaint with the Office of the Child Advocate?

*Before submitting a complaint, you must exhaust all reasonable remedies within the DCYF and DHHS system, including contacting caseworkers, supervisors, directors, and the DHHS Ombudsman (603-271-6941 or 800-852-3345 Ext. 6941)*

*If you would then like to submit a complaint regarding DCYF, please provide as much information as possible:*

- Your name, contact information and relationship to the child
- The child's name and last known address
- The child's parent(s) or guardian's names
- The DCYF district office involved and the DCYF caseworker
- A summary of the complaint with associated date(s)

**If a child is in immediate danger, call 9-1-1.  
To report suspected abuse or neglect call  
DCYF Intake at 1-800-894-5533.**



*There are times when DCYF is involved in the lives of children and families. It is the Child Advocate's responsibility to make sure that the State of New Hampshire does the best job possible in caring for and protecting children.*



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*The Office of the Child Advocate was established in 2018 as part of an aggressive commitment to reform New Hampshire's child welfare system. We are an independent and impartial state office established to oversee the Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF).*

*The mission of the Office of the Child Advocate is to provide independent and impartial oversight of the New Hampshire child welfare and juvenile justice systems to promote effective reforms that meet the best interests of children.*



### How does the Child Advocate help?

Pursuant to RSA 170 G:18, the Office of the Child Advocate investigates complaints about the DCYF for:

- Children under protective supervision
- Children in foster care or institutional settings
- Children involved with juvenile justice facilities
- Children in need of services

We turn complaints into building blocks for better child welfare and juvenile justice systems. We promote best practice to ensure the best interests of children are protected. We will also make sure policy makers know what children need so DCYF has the resources to do the best job possible.

#### Connect with us:

Office of the Child Advocate  
121 South Fruit Street, B107  
Concord NH 03301

Email: [ChildAdvocate@NH.gov](mailto:ChildAdvocate@NH.gov)

Phone: 603-271-7773 • Toll Free: 833-NHCHILD

Website: [ChildAdvocate.nh.gov](http://ChildAdvocate.nh.gov)