

## YDC Claims Administration and Settlement Fund

### SPECIAL NOTICE for Department of Corrections (DOC) Residents

#### What is the YDC Settlement Fund?

The State of New Hampshire has investigated abuse at New Hampshire's youth development center facilities and acknowledges potential claims of abuse.

The State has set aside a settlement fund and created a process to pursue another pathway to resolve claims against the State of New Hampshire that is an alternative to litigation, if you so choose to.

The Youth Development Center Claims Administration and Settlement Fund was created by statute and the legislature adopted different legal documents to be followed during the claims process.

#### Learn More about the YDC Settlement Fund

More information about the Settlement Fund, is available at our website online at:

<https://www.ydcclaims.nh.gov/resources-forms>

There may be help available at your facility for accessing important documents and information.

- A case manager or state prison librarian may be able to assist you with printing documents from our website.
- You may write to YDC Claims staff and have information sent to you.  
YDC Claims Administration  
P.O. Box 1930  
Concord, N.H. 03302-1930
- You may call (603) 415-2136 or toll-free at (1) 833-423-2136.

#### Claims Information is Confidential

Claims documents and information created in connection with claims are treated as confidential (kept private) by the YDC Claims Administrator and by the Attorney General's Office to the greatest extent permitted by law, with limited exceptions. A claimant may choose to waive (set aside) confidentiality (and inform others).

The *Claim Packet* form provides important Legal Notice about Privacy and Confidentiality.

It is important to know that the YDC Claims Administration will send you materials and respond to your questions using the contact information that you provide.

#### **Important Notice on Confidentiality:**

In order to process a claim, YDC Claims staff must share claims information with parties in a confidential manner.

A DOC resident's submission of a claim or selection of a resolution proceeding ***represents an acknowledgement and acceptance*** of the following:

- In limited situations YDC Claims staff will need to share the names of a claimant and some claim information with a Department of Corrections point person in a confidential manner in order to process a claim. This is done solely to enable claims processing or a resolution proceeding to occur and is highly confidential by statute.

## Legal Resources

If you are considering having a lawyer represent you, there is a list of law firms on our website. You can also contact the Lawyer Referral Service:

Lawyer Referral Service (LRS)  
New Hampshire Bar Association  
(603) 229-0002  
[lrsreferral@nhbar.org](mailto:lrsreferral@nhbar.org)

This referral service has a dedicated phone line for DOC residents: (603) 715-3281 (collect calls accepted)

## Emotional and Mental Health Support

If you are experiencing emotional distress, DOC residents should reach out to staff at your facility. Help is available through your case manager, victim witness advocate, and mental health counselor. If none of these staff are on-site, the medical staff can assist you.

YDC Staff can also send you a list of resources that is on our website. This list includes the *New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence*: **1-866-644-3574** and **1-800-277-5570**.