

# Swinborn

1979 – 1986

## Details

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Swinborn was a hostel in Carlton established by the Melbourne City Mission in 1979. It was formerly Swinborn Lodge, which had been located in South Yarra, and had moved to the Carlton site in 1974. Swinborn provided professional residential and support services for girls on Children's Court orders. It closed in 1986.

In 1972, the Community Welfare Foundation (the name of the Melbourne City Mission from 1970 until it reverted to its original name in 1979) proposed a new focus and new location for Swinborn Lodge.

The Mission's old central office in Carlton was modified and the new hostel opened in 1974. Swinborn Lodge now functioned as a 'specialist hostel' providing professional residential and support services for girls on Children's Court orders with quite serious personal or social challenges. In 1979 the facility's name was changed to 'Swinborn' and the term 'Lodge' dropped.

By the early 1980s, Melbourne City Mission was exploring ways to reduce the number of young people placed at Swinborn and a supported community placement scheme was introduced. Concerns were also being expressed about the size of Swinborn, its institutional nature and high maintenance costs. Due to these issues and other pressures, Swinborn's residential and community placement programs were seen as services of the past and closed in 1986.

Some Swinborn staff and functions were transferred to a new emergency accommodation and housing service called 'Stopover' established by the Melbourne City Mission in Carlton.

## More info

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### Chronology

- Elizabeth Fry Retreat (1884 - 1957)
  - Swinborn Lodge (1957 - 1979)
- **Swinborn (1979 – 1986)**

### Related Entries

#### Run by

- [Melbourne City Mission \(1979 - c. 2000\)](#)  
Date: 1979 - 1986

### Resources

- James Jenkinson Consulting, [Guide to out-of-home care services 1940-2000 - Volume One: Agency Descriptions](#), November 2001
- Malone, Betty, *Bonds of care: Elizabeth Fry Retreat and its founders*, 1991
- Spivey, Margaret, *Defying the gatekeeper: one girl's true story of resistance and rebellion*, 2010
- [Swinborn Lodge \(1979-86\)](#), Finding Records, No date. *Relevance:* See the 'List of records held by the department' section for information about records relating to Swinborn

## Records

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For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

### Records

- [Melbourne City Mission Records \(c. 1900 - current\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/swinborn/>