

# Central Committee for Boarding Out Destitute Children

1881 – 1896

## Details

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The Central Committee for Boarding Out Destitute Children was established in 1881. It was a volunteer Committee that inspected the foster homes of children placed in them under the *Public Charities Act* 1873. The Secretary of the newly established Neglected Children's Department abolished the Committee in 1898.

The *Public Charities Act* 1873 provided for a committee to run the boarding out system. Even so, initially, William Tarleton, the Administrator of Charitable Grants, managed it. However, since his Department was unable to inspect the homes regularly, he arranged for the Hobart Benevolent Society to take over in 1880. That apparently did not work because, in 1881, the Central Committee for Boarding Out Destitute Children replaced it.

In southern Tasmania, Hobart and New Town were divided into three districts each with a voluntary visiting committee of two women and one man to inspect the children's homes. Launceston had a similar arrangement. At some stage, the men stopped carrying out inspections. The committees visited children every month to check for abuse or negligence, advise foster mothers on care, and check that the bedding was clean and warm. They also bought clothing for newly boarded out children. In Hobart, an inquiring officer also inspected children's homes.

The Central Committee was abolished in 1898, shortly after the establishment of the Neglected Children's Department. However, its Ladies Committees continued their work until 1911 in Hobart and 1912 in Launceston.

## More info

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### Chronology

- Hobart Benevolent Society (1859 - current)
  - **Central Committee for Boarding Out Destitute Children (1881 – 1896)**

### Related Entries

#### Related Legislation

- [Public Charities Act 1873, Tasmania \(1873 - 1935\)](#)

#### Related Organisations

- [Neglected Children's Department, Colony of Tasmania \(1896 - 1901\)](#)

The Neglected Children's Department took over the day-to-day running of the boarding out system from the Central Committee for Boarding Out Destitute Children

# Records

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## Records

- [Register of Boarded Out Children Who Have Been Sent to Service, Central Committee for Boarding-Out Destitute Children \(1879 - 1885\)](#)
  - [Minutes of Meetings, Central Committee for Boarding-Out Destitute Children \(1878 - 1896\)](#)
  - [Index to Children Boarded Out, Central Committee for Boarding-Out Destitute Children \(1881 - 1892\)](#)
  - [Register of Applications from Individuals to Become Foster Parents, Central Committee for Boarding Out Destitute Children \(1881 - 1894\)](#)
  - [Correspondence Relating to the Custody and Welfare of Children under Various Acts \(1887 - 1954\)](#)
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