

# Fullarton Children's Home

1969 – 1986

## Details

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The Fullarton Children's Home was the new name given to the Salvation Army Girls' Home in 1969 when it began to also accommodate younger boys. It was run by the Salvation Army but was licensed and regularly inspected by the government. In 1972 younger boys from the Salvation Army Boys' Home, Kent Town, were sent to Fullarton Children's Home. In the 1980s it also accommodated Aboriginal girls attending secondary school. The Children's Home closed in 1986.

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In 1969 the Army referred to the Fullarton Children's Home as a 'substitute home' for boys and girls in its promotional brochure and stated that its main focus was on keeping siblings together where possible. It reported that the need for this type of home, was brought about by 'the actions or mis-actions of adults, not children'. The Army aimed to give children not only food and shelter but also 'the opportunity of living in a Home where there is love, acceptance and someone to look to for direction and guidelines in living'.

Staff at the Fullarton Children's Home stated in 1969 that they wished to form a Women's Auxiliary for the Home because of the Aboriginal children in their care. It was their belief that; 'there are special and peculiar difficulties that are encountered only when working with a combination of Aboriginal and white children'.

In 1972, 31 children were resident at the Home. The Salvation Army reported that most of the children were at the Home because of family or foster care breakdown, the illness of parents, or because of 'behavioural difficulties'. Fourteen children had been referred to the Home by the department. In that same year when the Salvation Army Boys' Home at Kent Town closed, the younger boys from there were sent to Fullarton Children's Home.

In 1974, the Salvation Army entered into new licensing and funding agreements with the government and the newly former Residential Child Care Advisory Committee (RCCAC). The department paid for a social worker to help assess and care for children admitted to the home and each child's case was to be subject to regular review.

During the 1980s, as part of an arrangement with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, a number of Aboriginal girls were sent to live at Fullarton while completing their final years of High School.

In the 1980s the RCCAC began to encourage non-government agencies to move away from large scale residential care. As a result, at the end of June 1986 Fullarton Children's Home ceased to operate as a children's home. The building was retained by the Salvation Army and is now the South Australian Divisional Headquarters.

Fullarton Children's Home was one of the institutions that came under scrutiny for allegations of abuse during the Children in State Care Inquiry 2004-2008.

# Gallery

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## Salvation Army Girls' Home, Fullarton

**Description:** This photo is undated, the date included is an estimate.

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## More info

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### Chronology

- Girls' Probationary School (1901 - 1945)
  - The Salvation Army Girls' Home, Fullarton (1945 - 1969?)
  
- **Fullarton Children's Home (1969 – 1986)**

### Related Entries

#### Run by

- [The Salvation Army Australia Southern Territory \(1921 - 2018\)](#)

#### Related Events

- [Children in State Care Commission of Inquiry, South Australia \(2004 - 2008\)](#)

#### Related Organisations

- [Kurinda Cottage \(1981 - current\)](#)  
Kurinda Cottage was established as an after-care facility for girls from Fullarton Children's Home.
- [Department of Social Welfare, South Australian Government \(1966 - 1970\)](#)  
Fullarton Children's Home was regularly inspected by the Department of Social Welfare
- [Department of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs, South Australian Government \(1970 - 1972\)](#)  
Fullarton Children's Home was regularly inspected by the Department of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs
- [Department for Community Welfare, South Australian Government \(1972 - 1990\)](#)  
Fullarton Children's Home was regularly inspected by the Department for Community Welfare
- [The Salvation Army Boys' Home, Kent Town \(1929 - 1972\)](#)  
When The Salvation Army Boys' Home at Kent Town closed, some boys were transferred to the Fullarton Children's Home
- [Joyville Cottage \(1972 - 1986?\)](#)  
Joyville Cottage was built within the grounds of the Fullarton Children's Home.

#### Related Concepts

- [Stolen Generations](#)

### Resources

- Cleland, Sharon, [Caring for the Children: A history of institutional care provided by The Salvation Army for Australian children and youth \(1893-1995\)](#), August 2012

# Records

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

## Records

- [Historical records and memorabilia of Salvation Army institutions, Southern Territory](#)
  - [Salvation Army Australia, Records of Homes in the former Southern Territory \(c. 1889 - c. 1988\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/fullarton-childrens-home/>