

## **Board of Commissioners of Public Charities State Documents**

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Finding aid written in English

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of the State Library

Forum Building  
607 South Drive  
Harrisburg, PA, 17120

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## Summary Information

**Repository:** Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of the State Library

**Creator:** Pennsylvania. Board of Public Charities

**Title:** Board of Commissioners of Public Charities State Documents

**Identifier:** PUB-CHAR

**Date:** 1869 - 1921

**Date:** Majority of material found within 1885 – 1912

**Physical Description:** 575 Megabytes (47 PDF files)

**Language of** English

**Materials:**

## Scope and Contents

The Board of Commissioners of Public Charities was charged with inspection of all charitable, penal, and correctional institutions in the Commonwealth. Within this Board was a Committee on Lunacy, which examined places specifically for the confinement of the insane.

The publications of the Board of Public Charities contain annual reports, from the Board itself and the Committee on Lunacy. Selected topics from these publications include yearly happenings and statistics of the Board and the Committee, and reports from the Officers of the Board and the Chairman of the Committee. The bulk of the current material is dated from 1885 to 1912.

## Biographical / Historical

The Board of Public Charities was created in 1869. A Committee on Lunacy was established by the Board in 1883. In 1921 the Board was abolished, and the Department of Welfare was created in its place to coordinate and administer welfare programs.

## Legacy Agency Names and Related Agencies

Department of Welfare (successor agency)

## General

The 1884 Second Report of the Committee on Lunacy of the Board of Public Charities is available on the Internet Archive: <https://archive.org/details/annualreport2188penn>. Further annual reports are available in the digital collections.

## General

Annual reports of the Board of Commissioners of Public Charities from 1870 to 1917 (intermittent) are available on the Internet Archive: <https://archive.org/search?query=report+public+charities+pennsylvania>.

## **Other Finding Aids**

For more information concerning the records of the Board of Commissioners of Public Charities at the Pennsylvania State Archives, please visit:

<https://gencat.eloquent-systems.com/pennsylvania-state-archives/permalink.html?key=class570>.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Publication Statement**

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### **Controlled Access Headings**

- Pennsylvania Politics and government
- Politics and government
- Public welfare
- State government publications