

Changing Face Of Ministry

All the while, the work in the primary and secondary schools continued. Boards of Management were initiated. Some Sisters lectured at third level. Many Sisters provided classes and care for the general wellbeing of traveller children. Others were committed to those who were mentally challenged. St. Michael's School in Castlerea was born out of that dedication. Outside the classroom sisters invested in youth work with groups such as Foróige and, in particular, with St. Anne's Club, now the Avalon Centre.

A qualified social worker was to the fore in the setting up of Sligo Social Services and she initiated many of the services it provided. Others worked with St. Attracta's Adoption Society, Cura, The Health Board, The Irish Wheelchair Association and home school liaison. Rural communities benefitted from the expertise of community workers. The MS Therapy Centre Sligo was established mainly through the vision of a Sister who was an occupational therapist. A Sister qualified as a family therapist set up and worked in Vita House, Roscommon. A psychotherapist initiated and worked in The Knock Shrine Counselling Service. Sisters worked with many NGOs, seeking to enhance the lives of many at community and national level.