

## Andrea Keenan

### *The Foot Care Centre*



#### CONTACT DETAILS

T: +353 83 8718010

E: [footcarecentreclonmel@gmail.com](mailto:footcarecentreclonmel@gmail.com)

Facebook: [@thefootcarecentreclonmel](https://www.facebook.com/thefootcarecentreclonmel)

[footcarecentreclonmel.com](http://footcarecentreclonmel.com)



Andrea Keenan had been working as a legal secretary when her diagnosis for Type 2 diabetes sparked radical changes in both her lifestyle and career.

Knowing that diabetes can increase a person's chances of suffering nerve damage and reduced circulation, which can lead to more serious problems like amputation in the lower appendages, Andrea was inspired to trade in the law for studies in foot care.

She would earn her diploma in 2016, a qualification which set her on course to establishing her own practice in her hometown of Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

"Clonmel has a population of around 20,000 people and there were very few foot care practitioners around when I set up, so there was a big gap in the market. I did strictly home visits in my first year and then moved into my own premises in the centre of Clonmel around five years ago," says Andrea, who now has around 2,000 patients on her books.

Andrea now regularly works six days a week, including mobile clinics at nursing homes, adult residential units and day care centres. And with an extra treatment room available at her Clonmel office, she hopes to take on another clinician in the near future to help carry the workload.

"I've built the business to the point where I have plenty of new clients and I'm now doing a degree in podiatry which will enable me to grow my business to include nail surgery and biomechanics," she says.

Andrea says the ACORNS programme was invaluable in helping her grow the business.

"You couldn't help but be invigorated by the knowledge and expertise of the Lead Entrepreneurs and the positivity and professionalism of my peers. I loved it," she says.

*Providing early stage female entrepreneurs, living in rural Ireland, with the knowledge, support and networking opportunities to meet and even exceed their current aspirations.*



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine