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Amy Fetterly loves sharing a little magic with youth.

The acting director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hastings and Prince Edward Counties well knows the importance of taking kids on such simple outings as fishing trips, movies, apple orchards and even Belleville Bulls hockey games.

"These are activities that others may take for granted but which these youngsters with our organization really appreciate and benefit from."

The "Share a Little Magic" theme for Big Brothers Big Sisters is what the United Way agency is all about, said Fetterly.

"It's about making children feel involved, feel special, and providing them with the magic of friendship, which is very important. It's about giving them the little opportunities in life."

The 26-year-old Huntingwood Drive resident sees her role as a friend to the Little Brothers and Little Sisters, rather than a paid staff member.

"I have been to their VIP graduations, helped them with Christmas shopping, taken them to the beach and arranged Christmas parties for them. I really want them to know they have a friend in the agency," Fetterly said.

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides programs for youth between the ages of six and 16. Children are matched with their Big Brothers or Big Sisters for friendship and weekly activities. The Dundas Street East agency also provides an in-school mentoring program as well as after-school and summer programs and regular activities.

Fetterly enjoys children, even though she doesn't have any of her own — yet. She is in a common-law relationship with

Trevor whom she said is "very supportive of my role in the agency and has helped out on many occasions."

"I care about the kids like they are my own. I like to hear how they are doing in school and their other activities they are involved in. I make a point to really get to know them and their families."

Fetterly's career aspirations initially revolved around photography before turning her attention to helping youth.

The Kemptville native moved to Belleville in 1997 to attend Loyalist College's photo journalism program.