



"When I give my time or money," Angie Hartman says, "I feel like I'm part of the community."

Stories inspire York County woman to contribute by OUR YORK MEDIA

Angie Hartman finds inspiration in the stories.

Take, for example, the one she heard from a Big and Little matched in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program not long ago that captured her heart.

You could feel the bond they formed by how they spoke, Angie remembers, and how they felt for each other by how they smiled.

"You could see the change this mentor was making in this girl's life," Angie says. "She had a way better chance at success just having that someone to count on. It's definitely emotional."

These are the kind of moments that stick – the kind that reinforce something she's known for years.

"It helps you see the difference you can make in someone's life when you give to the United Way of York County Community Fund," she says.

Angie started donating to United Way of York County almost 20 years ago as a simple way to give back.

About five years ago, a friend invited her to an upcoming gathering of Women United, a local affinity group that aims to unite and empower women, and focuses on literacy throughout the county.



Women United is a group where women can come together to impact the lives of those in York County through volunteer projects, mentoring and hands-on leadership.



"Being with ladies who are like-minded definitely kicks everything up a notch," she says. "You hear others talking about their journey. It motivates you as a woman in business. You get to see how other people did it."

She also gets to see the group's impact during its volunteer events throughout the year.

"When you start getting involved," she says, "it opens your eyes to different situations in life."

Every dollar donated or hour of time volunteered helps United Way support its 36 partner agencies and achieve its overall mission of building a stronger, caring community, Angie says. "It all adds up."

And everyone has their own reasons for giving. For Angie, it's more than just the stories that drive her.

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