



Mckenzie Rowbotham, Age 12

This straight-A seventh grader has to travel more than 200 miles round trip to see the nearest pediatric rheumatologist. Diagnosed with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis at age 4, Mckenzie Rowbotham of Plymouth, NH, has attended the Arthritis Foundation's annual Advocacy and Kids' Summit for the past six years. She also leads her Walk to Cure Arthritis team, Mckenz Friendz, to raise money for research. "When I was younger, I cried every day when I hurt. But the pain has gone away a lot," Mckenzie says, thanks to her daily medications plus injections every 10 days.

The Arthritis Foundation exists to fight for people like Mckenzie.