



**Fort Wayne, IN**  
**Jingle Bell Run Youth Honoree**  
**Lilly**

Sweet little Lilly was first diagnosed with Juvenile Arthritis (JA) shortly after her 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday. She woke up one morning and tried to get out of bed, but kept falling. She crawled to her mom which was unusual; and her mom noticed that her knee was swollen, and she couldn't even straighten out her leg. As the time progressed she was able to move around more, but a nap, or a car ride would bring the swelling back. Within the next two weeks, swelling was noticed in one of her toes.

Since that first morning when JA set in for Lilly, she has been on a series of medications to help with the pain and swelling. While there has been some improvement, the swelling and morning stiffness still plagues Lilly. Her mom credits her active nature with helping her to battle her JA.

Lilly has become accustomed to the countless doctor visits that now include visits with an Optometrist to monitor any potential swelling in her eyes. What a brave little soldier! Her perseverance and strength makes the Arthritis Foundation proud to honor Lilly as our 2012 Jingle Bell Run Youth Honoree.

**About the Arthritis Foundation**

The Arthritis Foundation ([www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org)) is committed to raising awareness and reducing the unacceptable impact of arthritis, which strikes one in every five adults and 300,000 children, and is the nation's leading cause of disability. To conquer this painful, debilitating disease, we support education, research, advocacy and other vital programs and services.