



Sully Enfield
2013 Jingle Bell Run/Walk Youth Honoree
Ames, IA

Sullivan (Sully) Enfield is an active, fun, loving seven year old boy. He has a smile that can light up a room, and a face full of sweet freckles. He is lovingly known by his parents, "As our mischievous middle kid!" He is little brother to Carson, who is nine and big brother to Brecken, who is four.

When Sully was just 4 years old, he was put in the hospital for five days for a severe sinus infection. This was the first time his parents can remember him not wanting to walk, and complaining of leg pain. They assumed at the time, that the pain was associated with the illness he was fighting. From there on out, every time he would get sick, his legs would hurt. He had a great basketball season in the winter of 2012-2013, but shortly after that he was starting to really have trouble with limping and pain. He could barely make it up and down the stairs, especially in the morning. It went from a here-and-there pain, to an all-the-time pain.

He was referred to a rheumatologist in Iowa City in the spring of 2013. Upon first exam, it did not appear that Sully had juvenile arthritis (JA). However, after blood work and an MRI, he was diagnosed with juvenile Ankylosing Spondylitis in May 2013 at age six; the arthritis had apparently started in his lower back (SI joints).

He is a tough boy who pushes through his pain to keep up with his brother and friends. You will often find him with a big smile on his face, shooting hoops with big brother Carson, and his friends, and talking about all the books he read in 1st grade this year already! He is just about to start on Enbrel injections, which his parents are really hoping will allow him to have another great basketball season. He loves his basketball!

We are thrilled to honor Sully for his bravery and courage, and we are proud to have him as our 2013 Jingle Bell Run/Walk Youth Honoree!

About the Arthritis Foundation

The Arthritis Foundation (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.