

Leading the Way

Before having her fifteenth orthopedic surgery, Arthritis Foundation Platinum Ambassador Cheryl Suhr of Louisville, KY, talked with Sen. Mitch McConnell at the 2013 Advocacy Summit.

ACCESS AND ADVOCACY

On Capitol Hill and Beyond

People with arthritis face unique barriers to care: high costs of treatment, difficulty accessing medications, scarcity of specialists and more. It's hard for any individual to fight the battle alone. But through the Arthritis Foundation's effective and powerful advocacy network, we're working to address key issues on both the state and federal levels.

Leading the Fight for People Like Ashton

Ashton Hughes of Kentucky is an energetic fourth-grade student, baseball player and brother; he's also one of 300,000 children with arthritis. Bizarre medical symptoms landed him in the hospital, but he found answers after finding the right doctors, including a pediatric rheumatologist. While Ashton copes with daily chronic pain, his parents cope with the high cost of treatment and challenges with their insurance company over medication coverage. The Arthritis Foundation is working to ensure that people with arthritis, like Ashton, get the treatment they need and can afford. Together with our advocates, we are making our voices heard and eliminating barriers to health care wherever they exist.