



Evansville, IN
Jingle Bell Run Honoree
Kendra Schoffstall

Need proof that miracles do happen? Just look at Kendra! Diagnosed with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis (JRA) as a fourth grader she has had more than her share of life's challenges. She has suffered through the debilitating pain of JRA and all that it entails. From sobbing herself to sleep as her mom sat by her bedside, the limping, crutches, doctor visits, hospital stays, countless medications, restricted physical activity, and the loneliness of being the kid at school who was different; Kendra has survived it all.

The little girl grew into a beautiful, strong young woman; and life went on. When she learned she was expecting her first child, it was as though her body switched gears from the pain and debilitation of arthritis, to preparing to carry and deliver a child. Kendra went on to have that baby and then another! Today she is the inspiration for her blended family that includes grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She's making up for all the lost time of sitting on the sidelines growing up. Kendra is an avid runner who loves the challenge of a 5k or even a marathon. She enjoys working out at the gym, lifting weights, boot camp classes; and leads a healthy lifestyle. Kendra is living life full steam ahead. She's beaten the crippling disease that once had her in its grasp. Every time she crosses the finish line of a race she feels like a winner; and is happy to inspire others to face their challenges head on. She is living proof that miracles do happen.

We are honored to have Kendra as our 2012 Jingle Bell Run Honoree.

About the Arthritis Foundation

Striking one in every five adults and 300,000 children, arthritis is the nation's leading cause of disability. The Arthritis Foundation (www.arthritis.org) is committed to raising awareness and reducing the unacceptable impact of this serious and painful disease, which can severely damage joints and rob people of living life to its fullest. The Foundation funds life-changing research that has restored mobility in patients for more than six decades; fights for health care policies that improve the lives of the millions who live with arthritis; and partners with families to provide empowering programs and information.