



Springfield, MO
Jingle Bell Run/Walk Youth Honoree
Payton Crumpler

My name is Payton and I am 9 years old. I live in Purdy, Missouri which is located 45 minutes southwest of Springfield, Missouri. This is my third year participating in the Jingle Bell Run/Walk.

I could be anyone's sister, niece, daughter or granddaughter, but a couple of unfortunate and serious conditions limit the person I would like to be. I suffer from both Pauciarticular Arthritis and Celiac Disease, which means I have to live with constant pain in my knees, elbows and ankles, and maintain a gluten free diet.

I was diagnosed with Arthritis when I was 2 1/2 years old, so I have few memories of being pain-free. But, you know what? I refuse to let my conditions define who I am or what I can be. I just work with the abilities and dreams I have right now. I'm like any other child with ambitions and goals. I would love to be a doctor or a singer when I grow up. You'd have to look real hard to see any of my disabilities. I love to play softball and basketball and can sing a mean tune. You can help me achieve my dreams -me, and thousands of other children with similar illnesses. You see, my future depends upon your willingness to participate in the Jingle Bell Run.

You can make a world of difference with your generosity and good will.

Won't you consider being a part of this great cause? I would be so grateful. Let's all race to a cure!

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.