



**Allison Ivers**  
**2013 Jingle Bell Run/Walk Youth Honoree**  
**Western Suburbs, IL**

Allison Ivers is 11 years old and was diagnosed with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) in September, 2011. At the time of her diagnosis, Allison suffered a great deal of pain, and didn't feel like herself for over six months. Today, Allison is doing well. She has occasional knee pain and some difficulty when running. Stiffness can also be a problem when she first wakes up in the morning, or if she sits for too long.

Being a kid with JIA is a challenge, but Allison is very proud that she is now in remission and can enjoy the things she loves; like playing softball and hanging out with her friends. Understanding the need to stay active, Allison plays full time travel softball, softball for her middle school team, and she is a member of the swim team.

When asked about her hopes for the future Allison said, "I hope to stay in remission and live an active life without joint pain." Allison is a bright student and her favorite subject is math. She is the little sister to Claire and has two furry friends; Taylor, a one year old Cavachon, and Midnight, a four year old Lab/Terrier mix. Allison went on to say that, "the Arthritis Foundation has helped me and my mom learn more about how to handle my arthritis."

We are thrilled to have this courageous young lady, Allison Ivers, as the 2013 Jingle Bell Run/Walk Youth Honoree for the Western Suburbs of Illinois.

**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.