



Colby Smith
2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis
Youth Honoree
Kansas City, MO

Meet Walk to Cure Arthritis Youth Honoree Colby Smith

Colby Smith, 12 years old, was diagnosed with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) in June of 2011. As an active participant in many sports, this was a shocking and life-changing diagnosis for Colby and his family. He might not look sick, but that doesn't mean he isn't in pain. Colby has even battled with arthritis affecting his voice box and was not able to speak for several weeks.

Colby has managed to rise above his pain with the support of his family and his friends at school. With the help of his mom, Becky Smith, Colby has even started a campaign in his school to raise awareness about kids with arthritis. Colby is proud of raising awareness at his school. He is also proud of not letting his arthritis control his life.

When asked what his hopes for the future are, Colby said, "I hope we can find a cure to get rid of arthritis forever so kids and adults don't have to go through the pain we do."

The Arthritis Foundation is proud to have Colby Smith as the 2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis 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.