

WALK to CURE ARTHRITISSM



Elin Mannon
2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis
Junior Princess Honoree
Peoria, IL

Elin Mannon, a precious Pre-K student at Dee Mack Primary Junior High School was diagnosed with polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) at just 22 months old. The stiffness and pain in Elin's left leg upon diagnosis caused that leg to be smaller due to her favoring the right leg as she learned to walk and climb. Physical therapy is helping Elin regain strength in her left leg.

Her family struggled with the diagnosis at first, but they are thankful for Elin's progress so far. Her prescribed medication has been successful, and they have only experienced minor hiccups on her road to recovery.

Elin remains as active as possible and enjoys coloring, painting, playing and eating snacks. Elin's family has enjoyed strong support from their family and friends. When asked about her hopes for Elin's future her mom replied, "I dream for the day there is a cure and I dream that Elin will never have to suffer in pain." Elin's mom went on to say that, The Arthritis Foundation has been our voice, they have let us know we are not alone, and they have put us in touch with other families with kids who are struggling with the same disease."

We are so proud of Elin's bravery and courage, and we are thrilled to recognize her 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.