



Briana Lynne Hutton
Arthritis Walk Honoree
Manhattan, KS

Briana is a bright and happy teenager. The joy on her face gives no hint to the pain she has suffered. She first noticed a nagging discomfort in her ankles and knees a couple of summer's ago. Prior to starting her eighth grade year, the pain became worse and a cyst started to develop on the top of her foot, which sent her to her family doctor. Briana went through a series of tests and was referred to a podiatrist. The podiatrist treated the cyst and Briana was ready to return to the long distance running she had so come to love. She found herself unable to run without experiencing severe pain. It was at this point that her family doctor referred her to pediatric rheumatologist, Dr. Carol Lindsley.

Dr. Lindsley completed an extensive evaluation and diagnosed Briana with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis (JRA) Seronegative Spondyloarthropathies; which is the absence of the rheumatoid factor. The cysts on her feet are synovial cysts, which stem from the arthritis.

Today, Briana is being treated with two types of arthritis medication, and she is learning to cope with the many changes in her lifestyle. Although she can no longer run long distance, she has developed other artistic talents, and chooses to focus on the things she can do. At school you will find her participating in band and debate, and she is also involved with the Girl Scouts and 4-H. Briana is active in her local church and takes an interest in women's bible study, and sings with the Methodist Church Choir and youth choir.

Briana has shown courage and determination in the fight against arthritis, and is an inspiration to everyone she meets. It is because of her strength that the Arthritis Foundation is proud to have Briana Lynne Hutton as the 2012 Arthritis Walk 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.