

# WALK to CURE ARTHRITIS<sup>SM</sup>



**McKenzie Leigh Shoff**  
**2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis**  
**Youth Honoree**  
**Manhattan, KS**

McKenzie Leigh Shoff, who likes to go by Kenzie, was diagnosed with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) in August, 2012. JIA is an autoimmune disorder, which means that the immune system malfunctions and attacks the body's organs and tissues; in this case, the joints. Despite the challenges of her JIA, Kenzie has remained as active as possible.

Kenzie loves to draw and write stories. At just 12 years old, Kenzie is very busy participating in Taekwondo, Girl Scouts, cheerleading, yoga, church choir and babysitting. She absolutely loves school and wants to be a doctor when she grows up. Her goal for the future is to research and help find cures for many terrible diseases.

Kenzie went to Arthritis Camp last summer on an Arthritis Foundation Scholarship. At camp, Kenzie was able to zip line, rock climb, do yoga, meet tons of new friends and participate in many other exciting activities. It was the best summer of her life and she plans to attend camp again this summer.

The Arthritis Foundation is proud to honor McKenzie Leigh Shoff as our 2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis youth honoree. We are inspired by Kenzie's courage and determination.

## **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.