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# Lauren's walk for charity is close to her heart

DANIEL HATCH

WA gymnast Lauren Mitchell understands the importance of the HBF Run For a Reason — her uncle has cerebral palsy.

“He’s in a wheelchair, so this gave me an opportunity to walk in support of him,” she said.

The world championship silver medallist will be among about 10,000 West Australians taking part in tomorrow’s event, presented by *The West*

*Australian*, through the city.

Mitchell, 18, will walk the 4.5km course with her mother Leanne and 13-year-old brother, Travis. She said participating in either the shorter walk or the 14km run was a great way for West Australians to support causes close to their heart.

“It is a really good opportunity to get into the community and do some good,”

she said.

Run For a Reason has so far raised close to \$200,000 for WA charities including the Cancer Council, Lifeline and the Heart Foundation. Other beneficiaries include the Cancer Council, Arthritis WA, the Asthma Foundation and Diabetes WA.

Both events start at 8am in Nelson Crescent near the WACA Ground in East Perth.

To accommodate the event, Graham Farmer Freeway eastbound will be closed to traffic, as will city access from Mitchell Freeway southbound and the Causeway eastbound.

Mitchell, is recovering from injury but plans to take part in the National Athletics Championships in Perth in July.



Championing the cause: WA gymnast Lauren Mitchell is recovering from injury but will walk the 4.5km course in tomorrow's HBF Run For a Reason which will aid several charities.

Picture: Mal Fairclough