



## July 12, 2002, Declared by King County Executive Rom Sims to be Eleanor Owen Day

In a proclamation issued this week, Ron Sims honored Eleanor Owen's service to the community by declaring July 12th, 2002 to be Eleanor Owen Day in King County. Citing among her many accomplishments her involvement with virtually every major mental health legislation in the state as well as her contribution to the founding of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), Executive Sims asked all residents to join him "in celebrating Eleanor's many significant contributions to those struggling with mental illness and to wish Eleanor every measure of happiness and fulfillment in the future."

2001 marked the "retirement" of WAMI's founding Executive Director. To celebrate her twenty-three years of service, WAMI threw Eleanor an Au Revoir and 81st birthday party on January 22, 2002 at the Lake Union Cafe. Senator Phil Talmadge and former DSHS Secretary Lyle Quasim were among the hundreds of admirers in attendance. The WAMI Board commemorated her legacy by renaming the WAMI office "The Eleanor Owen House," and a plaque was etched with her image in honor of the occasion. While Eleanor has retired from WAMI, she has no intention of giving her advocacy work a rest. The pharmaceutical companies are now the focus of her attention as she works to lower the cost of prescription drugs.

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