King County

Proclamation

WHEREAS, mental illness and substance abuse affect millions of Americans of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds, and in all communities; and

WHEREAS, detection, diagnosis, early intervention, and treatment greatly increase the likelihood of recovery and restored health; and

WHEREAS, treatment for addictions and mental illnesses are as effective as treatments for other chronic medical conditions such as diabetes and asthma; and

WHEREAS, the stigma and lack of understanding about mental illness and substance abuse continue to present the most significant barriers to treatment for people who need help; and

WHEREAS, thousands of health care providers and advocates have dedicated their lives to helping others achieve recovery, working tirelessly to educate and inform the public on the benefits of treatment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron Sims, King County Executive, do hereby proclaim Sunday, September 28, 2003 through Saturday, October 4, 2003 as

Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Awareness Week

in King County. I encourage all residents to join me in working to improve public awareness and understanding of mental illness, substance abuse and the effectiveness of community treatment.

KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE
KING COUNTY
WASHINGTON

Ron Sims
King County Executive