



PHOTO BY TODD COOPER

Best Program for the Homeless:

1. **CAHOOTS** 341 E. 12th Avenue. 541-342-8255. Whitebirdclinic.org/cahoots.
2. White Bird 341 E. 12th Avenue. 541-342-8255. Whitebirdclinic.org.
3. St. Vincent de Paul 555 High Street. 541-344-2115; 100 E. 11th Avenue. 541-868-0200. Svdp.us.

You might call the police non-emergency number to get ahold of Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets, but as CAHOOTS employee Brenton Gicker tells us, the organization “exists, to a large extent, to be an alternative to the police as much as possible in situations where a therapeutic mental health or medical intervention may be more beneficial than a law enforcement response.” The first place winner might be in Best Program for the

Homeless, but Gicker says the intervention is “primarily in situations that involve people who are struggling with addiction and mental illness, including but not limited to the homeless.”

Second place winner is White Bird, which is the home organization for CAHOOTS — and *EW* will take a moment here to remind you that we happily collect donations of warm clothing for White Bird at our office at 1251 Lincoln Street. In third is St. Vinnies, which won for Best Secondhand Shop and has programs all over Lane County to help those in need. Gicker says that if you want to support what CAHOOTS does, you can not only donate money and supplies; you can also help by “caring about your community and being outspoken in support of our work and that of our allies.” — *Camilla Mortensen*



PHOTO BY TODD COOPER

Best Local Politician:

1. **Peter DeFazio**
2. Jeff Merkley
3. Kitty Piercy

We don't love politics lately, but there's a lot to appreciate in this year's top three for best local politician. First of all, Rep. Peter DeFazio is back again as the area's top politico. Is it his no-holds-barred demeanor? Is it how hard he's worked to turn Congress from red to blue? We like to think it's because he loves his rescue dog. Whatever it is, *EW* readers love DeFaz, even if he's not planning a presidential run the way everyone speculates second-place winner Sen. Jeff Merkley is. Merkley's always been a good guy in politics, but this year the way he's stood up to the Trump administration, especially on immigration, has earned him a lot of kudos. Finally, previous winner, former Mayor Kitty Piercy, still manages to finish in the top three, despite not even being in office anymore. Piercy still engages with Eugeneans on her Facebook page and clearly *EW* readers appreciate being heard. — *Camilla Mortensen*

Best Nonprofit

1. **Planned Parenthood** 3579 Franklin Boulevard. 541-344-9411. Plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-southwestern-oregon.
2. FOOD for Lane County 270 W. 8th Avenue. 541-284-1340. Foodforlanecounty.org.
3. White Bird 341 E. 12th Avenue. 541-342-8255. Whitebirdclinic.org.

In a country where health care has been typically seen as more of a commodity than a human right, we're extremely lucky to have organizations like Planned Parenthood. And you all seem to agree by voting it the Best Nonprofit in Eugene. Along with providing services like contraceptives, gynecological check-ups and testing for sexually transmitted infections, Planned Parenthood does a lot of outreach and education about sexual health. It's now especially crucial that we support our local Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Oregon in Glenwood, in light of politics such as statewide Measure 106 aiming to prohibit public dollars from abortion services. “Health care is not a political issue,” Lisa Gardner, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Oregon tells us. — *Meerah Powell*