



Founding Guiding Principle: Public policymakers and the community must address the underlying issues of structural racism and its intersections with class, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disabilities, and the political, economic and social structures that create and perpetuate hunger, homelessness, the lack of decent affordable housing and disinvestment in neighborhoods of color

Crisis Assistance Helping Out on the Streets: CAHOOTS

Eugene, OR

www.whitebirdclinic.org/services/cahoots

Year Established: 1989

What is CAHOOTS?: A 24/7 mobile crisis intervention service integrated into the public safety systems of Eugene, OR. It is a free response to non-emergency medical care or first aid and for a broad range of non-criminal crises, including homelessness, intoxication, disorientation, substance abuse, mental health issues, as well as dispute resolution and conflict mediation. It is operated by the White Bird Clinic

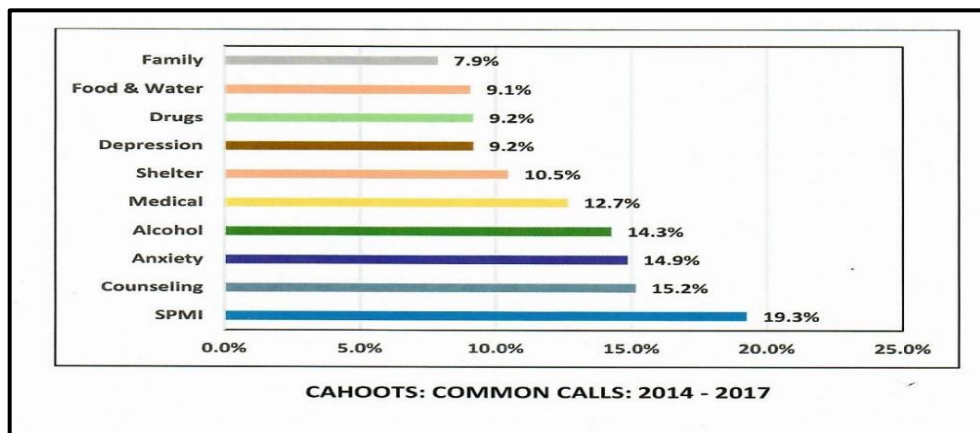
What Services does CAHOOTS provide?: Includes, but not limited to mental health crisis intervention and counseling, drug and alcohol related de-escalation, family dispute mediation, welfare checks, basic medical care and transportation to social services

CAHOOTS Team: Mental Health Crisis Workers and Emergency Medical Technician

Training: At least 500 hours of field work in addition to classroom training. Emphasis on non-judgmental and client-centered approach to communication and service delivery

Relationship to Police Department: CAHOOTS receives calls 24/7 through the Eugene police non-emergency dispatch. Program is designed to provide an alternative to police action whenever possible for crises that are non-criminal in nature.

Common Calls:

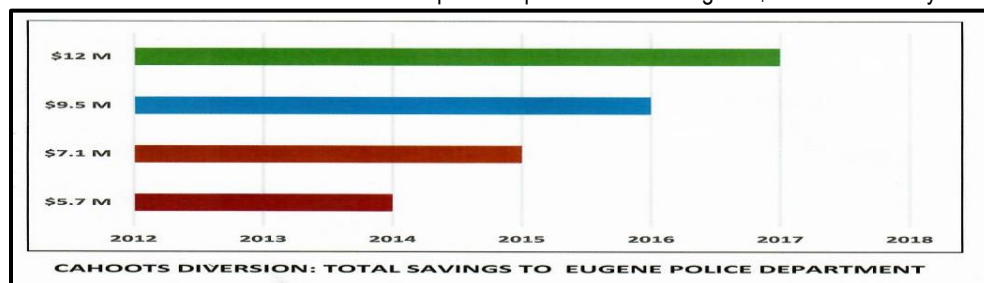


Demographics of clients: Over 60% are homeless; 30% live with severe and persistent mental illness; median age is 45.5 years old

Volume of calls: An average of 24,000 calls per year – only 1% have needed police intervention

Operating Budget: \$2.5 million annually

Savings by CAHOOTS Diversion: CAHOOTS has saved the police department an average of \$8.5 million each year from 2014-17



How is it funded?: Funded through Eugene's Public Safety including salaries, vans and equipment