

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Shared effort helps homeless

Regarding "Homeless camps to be swept into new housing program" (March 6), history will judge the greatness of a society on the degree to which it cares for those in the greatest of need. Over 25 years ago, former Mayor Art Agnos appealed to faith leaders to open their hearts, doors and kitchens to offer dignity, shelter and food to those living on the street. That response gave birth to the San Francisco Interfaith Council and the S.F. Interfaith Winter Shelter.

Mayor Ed Lee has called upon the SFIC to partner on a pioneering initiative engaging the generosity of a private-sector donor and a highly choreographed relationship among city departments and nonprofit agencies to facilitate immediate and direct services to the homeless. The Navigation Center will provide the time and space needed to assess and develop realistic long-term options for its clients. Equally, it is creating a model of collaboration among those with resources and nonprofit entities to address and fund pressing community needs.

Michael Pappas, San Francisco