# Why What We Are Doing Is So Important 

An Excerpt from the NCI Director's Update

National Cancer Advisory Board
February 5, 2008

## Human and Economic Burden of Cancer

- 1,444,920 Americans were diagnosed in 2007
- 559,650 died of cancer in 2007
- $\$ 206.3$ billion spent on healthcare costs for cancer in 2006
- 47 million Americans lack health insurance

Estimated \# of New U.S. Cancer Cases

## Cancer Death Rates




