

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR **GUARANTEED HEALTH CARE**

THE AWFUL TRUTH: U.S. PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE

A Million More Uninsured Americans Each Year

The number of uninsured Americans is rising at a rate of more than one million people annually, as premiums skyrocket and wages stagnate. The ranks of the uninsured increased by 1.3 million from 2004 to 2005, a jump in keeping with previous increase of 6 million between 2001-2005.

-Leighton Ku, "Census Revises Estimates of the Number of Uninsured People," Center on Budget & Policy Priorities, April 5, 2007. www.cbpp.org/4-5-07health.htm

More Money, Less Results

The World Health Organization found that the United States health system spends a higher portion of the gross domestic product than in any other country, but despite the expense, only ranks 37 out of 191 countries in terms of its performance.

-"World Health Organization Assesses the World's Health Systems," Press Release, WHO/44, June 21, 2000. www.who.int/inf-pr-2000/en/pr2000-44.html

Uninsured Americans Are Dying

The prestigious Institute of Medicine found that lack of health insurance is fatal, causing nearly 18,000 unnecessary deaths every year in the United States. Although America leads the world in health care spending, it is the *only* wealthy, industrialized nation that does not ensure that all citizens have coverage.

-"Insuring America's Health: Principles and Recommendations," Institute of Medicine, January 2004. www.iom.edu/?id=19175

INSURANCE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION: GETTING RICH WHILE AMERICANS SUFFER

\$1.6 billion

Value of stock options of UnitedHealth Group C.E.O. Bill McGuire at the end of 2005, as CEO of UnitedHealth Group.

-Robert Simison, "SEC Investigates UnitedHealth Over Stock-Options Practices," Bloomberg News, December 27, 2006; Michael Regan, "Business 2006: Who Won, Who Lost," Associated Press, December 26, 2006.

\$22.2 million

John W. Rowe earned \$22.2 million in compensation as CEO of Aetna. Rowe has since left Aetna.

-"Forbes 2004 Executive Pay list," April 21, 2005. www.forbes.com/static/execpay2005/LIRS5NI.html?passListId=12

\$3.33 million

Annual compensation for Michael B. McAllister as CEO of Humana, Inc.

-"2006 Executive Pay list," April 20, 2006. www.forbes.com/lists/2006/12/AG0Q.html