

KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC  
Form 8-K  
December 28, 2005

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

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**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the**  
**Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 27, 2005**

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**KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

**001-14057**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**61-1323993**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**680 South Fourth Street**  
**Louisville, Kentucky**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**40202-2412**

**(Zip Code)**

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (502) 596-7300**

**Not Applicable**

**(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation to the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

On December 27, 2005, Kindred Healthcare, Inc. (the Company ) announced that certain of its subsidiaries signed a definitive agreement (the Agreement ) with Health Care REIT, Inc. and its affiliates ( HCN ) to acquire the real estate associated with four long-term acute care hospitals for a total purchase price of approximately \$80 million in cash. As previously announced, the Company entered into a non-binding term sheet with HCN to purchase the real estate associated with these four long-term acute care hospitals in connection with the Company s acquisition of the assets of Commonwealth Communities Holdings LLC and certain of its affiliates (collectively, Commonwealth ). Commonwealth currently operates these four long-term acute care hospitals.

The transaction with HCN is subject to several conditions to closing, including the expiration of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvement Act of 1976, as amended, and the successful closing of the Commonwealth transaction.

**Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.**

Incorporated by reference is a press release issued by the Company on December 27, 2005, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. This information is being furnished under Item 7.01 and shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liability of such section.

**Item 9.01.**

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit 99.1 Press release dated December 27, 2005.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereto duly authorized.

Date: December 28, 2005

By: /s/ Joseph L. Landenwich

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Joseph L. Landenwich  
Senior Vice President of Corporate Legal Affairs and Corporate  
Secretary