UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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): November 3, 2004

KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction

001-14057 (Commission File Number) 61-1323993 (IRS Employer

of incorporation or organization)

Identification No.)

680 South Fourth Street

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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 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On November 3, 2004, Kindred Healthcare, Inc. (the Company) issued a press release announcing its financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2004. The press release, dated November 3, 2004, is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K. On November 3, 2004, the Company also made the press release available on its website at www.kindredhealthcare.com.

The information contained herein is being furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 of Form 8-K, Results of Operations and Financial Condition. This information shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

Incorporated by reference is a press release issued by the Company on November 3, 2004, 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 November 3, 2004.

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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: November 4, 2004 By: /s/ Richard A. Lechleiter

Richard A. Lechleiter Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer