# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 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): March 11, 2010

Centene Corporation

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware 001-31826 42-1406317 (State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer of Incorporation) Identification No.)

7711 Carondelet Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 725-4477

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

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers

A copy of the press release issued by the Company on March 15, 2010 is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (d) Exhibits.
- 99.1 Press release of Centene Corporation issued March 15, 2010.

#### **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 hereunto duly authorized.

### CENTENE CORPORATION

Date: March 15, 2010 By: /s/ William N. Scheffel

William N. Scheffel

**Executive Vice President and Chief** 

Financial Officer

## **EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press release of Centene Corporation issued March 15, 2010.