

VENTAS INC
Form 10-K
February 29, 2008
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 1-10989

VENTAS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

61-1055020
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

Edgar Filing: VENTAS INC - Form 10-K

10350 Ormsby Park Place, Suite 300, Louisville, Kentucky 40223
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)
(502) 357-9000

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class	Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.25 per share	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment of this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

The aggregate market value of shares of the Registrant's common stock, par value \$0.25 per share, held by non-affiliates of the Registrant, computed by reference to the closing price of the common stock on June 29, 2007, was approximately \$4.8 billion. For purposes of the foregoing calculation only, all directors and executive officers of the Registrant have been deemed affiliates.

As of February 15, 2008, 138,311,810 shares of the Registrant's common stock were outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Registrant's definitive Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 19, 2008 are incorporated by reference into Part III, Items 10 through 14 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated or except where the context otherwise requires, the terms we, us and our and other similar terms in this Annual Report on Form 10-K refer to Ventas, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Forward-Looking Statements

This Annual Report on Form 10-K includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). All statements regarding our expected future financial position, results of operations, cash flows, funds from operations, dividends and dividend plans, financing plans, business strategy, budgets, projected costs, capital expenditures, competitive positions, acquisitions, investment opportunities, merger integration, growth opportunities, expected lease income, continued qualification as a real estate investment trust (REIT), plans and objectives of management for future operations and statements that include words such as anticipate, if, believe, plan, estimate, expect, intend, may, could, shall, or other similar expressions are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain, and security holders must recognize that actual results may differ from our expectations. We do not undertake a duty to update these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date on which they are made.

Our actual future results and trends may differ materially depending on a variety of factors discussed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission). Factors that may affect our plans or results include without limitation:

The ability and willingness of our operators, tenants, borrowers, managers and other third parties, as applicable, to meet and/or perform the obligations under their various contractual arrangements with us;

The ability and willingness of Kindred Healthcare, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, Kindred), Brookdale Living Communities, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, Brookdale) and Alterra Healthcare Corporation (together with its subsidiaries, Alterra) to meet and/or perform their obligations to indemnify, defend and hold us harmless from and against various claims, litigation and liabilities under our respective contractual arrangements with Kindred, Brookdale and Alterra;

The ability of our operators, tenants, borrowers and managers, as applicable, to maintain the financial strength and liquidity necessary to satisfy their respective obligations and liabilities to third parties, including without limitation obligations under their existing credit facilities;

Our success in implementing our business strategy and our ability to identify, underwrite, finance, consummate and integrate diversifying acquisitions or investments, including those in different asset types and outside the United States;

The nature and extent of future competition;

The extent of future or pending healthcare reform and regulation, including cost containment measures and changes in reimbursement policies, procedures and rates;

Increases in our cost of borrowing;

The ability of our operators and managers, as applicable, to deliver high quality services, to attract and retain qualified personnel and to attract residents and patients;

Edgar Filing: VENTAS INC - Form 10-K

The results of litigation affecting us;

Changes in general economic conditions and/or economic conditions in the markets in which we may, from time to time, compete;

Our ability to pay down, refinance, restructure and/or extend our indebtedness as it becomes due;

i

Table of Contents

The movement of interest rates and the resulting impact on the value of and the accounting for our interest rate swap agreement;

Our ability and willingness to maintain our qualification as a REIT due to economic, market, legal, tax or other considerations;

Final determination of our taxable net income for the year ended December 31, 2007 and for the year ending December 31, 2008;

The ability and willingness of our tenants to renew their leases with us upon expiration of the leases and our ability to relet our properties on the same or better terms in the event such leases expire and are not renewed by the existing tenants;

Risks associated with our acquisition of Sunrise Senior Living Real Estate Investment Trust (Sunrise REIT), including the timely delivery of accurate property-level financial results for our properties and our ability to timely and fully realize the expected revenues and cost savings therefrom;

Factors causing volatility in our revenues generated by our seniors housing communities managed by Sunrise Senior Living, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, Sunrise), including without limitation national and regional economic conditions, costs of materials, energy, labor and services, employee benefit costs and professional and general liability claims;

The movement of U.S. and Canadian exchange rates;

Year-over-year changes in the Consumer Price Index and the effect of those changes on the rent escalators, including the rent escalator for Master Lease 2 with Kindred, and our earnings;

The impact on the liquidity, financial condition and results of operations of our operators, tenants, borrowers and managers, as applicable, resulting from increased operating costs and uninsured liabilities for professional liability claims, and the ability of our operators, tenants, borrowers and managers to accurately estimate the magnitude of these liabilities; and

The impact of the Sunrise strategic review process and accounting, legal and regulatory issues.

Many of these factors, some of which we describe in greater detail in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, are beyond our control and the control of our management.

Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living Information

Each of Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, which include Brookdale and Alterra, Brookdale Senior Living) is subject to the reporting requirements of the Commission and is required to file with the Commission annual reports containing audited financial information and quarterly reports containing unaudited financial information. The information related to Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living contained or referred to in this Annual Report on Form 10-K is derived from filings made by Kindred or Brookdale Senior Living, as the case may be, with the Commission or other publicly available information, or has been provided to us by Kindred or Brookdale Senior Living. We have not verified this information either through an independent investigation or by reviewing Kindred's or Brookdale Senior Living's public filings. We have no reason to believe that this information is inaccurate in any material respect, but we cannot assure you that all of this information is accurate. Kindred's and Brookdale Senior Living's filings with the Commission can be found at the Commission's website at www.sec.gov. We are providing this data for informational purposes only, and you are encouraged to obtain Kindred's and Brookdale Senior Living's publicly available filings from the Commission.

Table of Contents

Sunrise Information

Sunrise is subject to the reporting requirements of the Commission and is required to file with the Commission annual reports containing audited financial information and quarterly reports containing unaudited financial information. According to public disclosures, Sunrise has not been timely filing such required reports and is currently experiencing certain legal, accounting and regulatory difficulties. On July 25, 2007, Sunrise announced that its board of directors had decided to explore strategic alternatives intended to enhance shareholder value, including a possible sale of Sunrise. Sunrise has also announced that it intends to file its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 no later than March 17, 2008, although there can be no assurance it will do so. If Sunrise does not so file, its shares will likely be delisted from the New York Stock Exchange. We cannot predict what impact, if any, the outcomes of these uncertainties will have on Sunrise's financial condition or ability to manage our senior living operations. You are encouraged to obtain additional information related to Sunrise at the Commission's website at www.sec.gov.

Certain Information Regarding ElderTrust Operating Limited Partnership

Not later than the deadline prescribed by the Exchange Act, we will cause ElderTrust Operating Limited Partnership (ETOP) to file an Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007. ETOP's Annual Report, upon filing, shall be deemed incorporated by reference in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I

Item 1.	<u>Business</u>	1
Item 1A.	<u>Risk Factors</u>	27
Item 1B.	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	38
Item 2.	<u>Properties</u>	38
Item 3.	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	40
Item 4.	<u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>	40

PART II

Item 5.	<u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	40
Item 6.	<u>Selected Financial Data</u>	43
Item 7.	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	44
Item 7A.	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	62
Item 8.	<u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	63
Item 9.	<u>Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	144
Item 9A.	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	144
Item 9B.	<u>Other Information</u>	144

PART III

Item 10.	<u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	145
Item 11.	<u>Executive Compensation</u>	145
Item 12.	<u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	145
Item 13.	<u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	145
Item 14.	<u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	145

PART IV

Item 15.	<u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	146
----------	---	-----

Table of Contents

PART I

ITEM 1. *Business*

BUSINESS

Overview

We are a REIT with a geographically diverse portfolio of seniors housing and healthcare-related properties in the United States and Canada. As of December 31, 2007, this portfolio consisted of 519 assets: 253 seniors housing communities, 197 skilled nursing facilities, 42 hospitals and 27 medical office and other properties in 43 states and two Canadian provinces, including 77 seniors housing communities we acquired from Sunrise REIT on April 26, 2007. With the exception of our medical office buildings (MOBs) and 79 of our seniors housing communities that are managed by Sunrise pursuant to long-term management agreements, we lease these properties to healthcare operating companies under triple-net or absolute-net leases, which require the tenants to pay all property-related expenses. We also had real estate loan investments relating to seniors housing and healthcare-related third parties as of December 31, 2007.

We conduct substantially all of our business through our wholly owned subsidiaries, Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership, PSLT OP, L.P. and Ventas SSL, Inc., and ETOP, in which we own substantially all of the partnership units. Our primary business consists of financing, owning and leasing seniors housing and healthcare-related properties and leasing or subleasing those properties to third parties or operating those properties through independent third party managers.

We were incorporated in Kentucky in 1983, commenced operations in 1985 and reorganized as a Delaware corporation in 1987. We operate through two reportable business segments: triple-net leased properties and senior living operations. See our Consolidated Financial Statements and the related notes, including Note 2 Accounting Policies, included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our business strategy is comprised of two primary objectives: (1) diversifying our portfolio of properties and (2) increasing our earnings. We intend to continue to diversify our real estate portfolio by operator, property type, geography and reimbursement source through investments in, and acquisitions and/or development of, additional seniors housing and/or healthcare-related assets across a wide spectrum.

Portfolio of Properties

As of December 31, 2007: we had a 100% ownership interest in 451 of our properties, consisting of 192 seniors housing communities, 42 hospitals, 197 skilled nursing facilities and 20 other properties; we had a 75% to 85% ownership interest in 61 seniors housing communities, with the minority interest in those communities being owned by Sunrise; and we had a majority ownership interest in seven MOBs, with the minority interest in those properties ranging from less than 1% to less than 9% being owned by three different partners that provide management and leasing services for the properties.

Table of Contents

The following table provides an overview of our portfolio of properties and other real estate investments as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007:

Portfolio by Type	# of Properties	# of Beds/Units	Revenue	Percent of Total Revenues	Real Estate Investments, at Cost (Dollars in thousands)	Percent of Real Estate Investments	Real Estate Investment Per Bed/Unit	Number of Locations (1)
Seniors Housing and Healthcare-Related Properties								
Seniors housing communities	253	24,113	\$ 483,378	62.7%	\$ 4,842,211	76.9%	\$ 200.8	36
Skilled nursing facilities	197	24,577	175,277	22.7	873,958	13.9	35.6	29
Hospitals	42	3,844	92,020	11.9	368,856	5.9	96.0	18
MOBs(2)	19	nm	14,619	1.9	198,203	3.2	nm	8
Other properties	8	122	917	0.1	7,137	0.1	58.5	1
Total seniors housing and healthcare-related properties	519	52,656	\$ 766,211	99.3%	\$ 6,290,365	100.0%		45
Other Real Estate Investments								
Loans receivable	4	290	2,586	0.3				
Total	523	52,946	\$ 768,797	99.6%(3)				

- (1) As of December 31, 2007, we owned seniors housing and healthcare-related properties located in 43 states and two Canadian provinces. These properties were operated or managed by 21 different operators or third-party managers.
- (2) As of December 31, 2007, sixteen of our MOBs were operated by third-party managers and three were under triple-net leases.
- (3) The remainder of our total revenues is interest and other income.
- nm - not meaningful

Seniors Housing and Healthcare-Related Properties

Seniors Housing Communities. Our seniors housing communities include independent and assisted living communities, and communities providing care for individuals with Alzheimer's and other forms of memory loss. These communities offer residential units on a month-to-month basis primarily to elderly individuals requiring various levels of assistance. Basic services for residents of these communities include housekeeping, meals in a central dining area and group activities organized by the staff with input from the residents. More extensive care and personal supervision, at additional fees, are also available for such needs as eating, bathing, grooming, transportation, limited therapeutic programs and medication administration, all of which encourage the residents to live as independently as possible according to their abilities. These services are often met by home health providers, close coordination with the resident's physician and skilled nursing facilities.

Skilled Nursing Facilities. Our skilled nursing facilities typically provide nursing care services to the elderly and rehabilitation and restoration services, including physical, occupational and speech therapies, and other medical treatment for patients and residents who do not require the high technology, care-intensive setting of an acute care or rehabilitation hospital.

Hospitals. Our hospitals generally are long-term acute care hospitals that serve medically complex, chronically ill patients who require a high level of monitoring and specialized care, but whose conditions do not necessitate the continued services of an intensive care unit. The operator of these hospitals has the capability to treat patients who suffer from multiple systemic failures or conditions such as neurological disorders, head injuries, brain stem and spinal cord trauma, cerebral vascular accidents, chemical brain injuries, central nervous system disorders, developmental anomalies and cardiopulmonary disorders. Chronic patients are often dependent on technology for continued life support, such as mechanical ventilators, total parenteral nutrition, respiration or cardiac monitors and dialysis machines, and, therefore, due to their severe medical conditions, these patients generally are not clinically appropriate for admission to a nursing facility or rehabilitation hospital.

Table of Contents

Medical Office Buildings. Our medical office buildings offer office space primarily to physicians and other healthcare-related businesses.

Other Properties. Our other properties consist of personal care facilities, which provide specialized care, including supported living services, neurorehabilitation, neurobehavioral management and vocational programs, for persons with acquired or traumatic brain injury.

Other Real Estate Investments

As of December 31, 2007, our other real estate investments consisted of three first mortgage loans, secured by four properties, in the outstanding aggregate principal amount of \$20.1 million.

Each first mortgage loan accrues interest at a rate of 9% per annum and provides for monthly amortization of principal with a balloon payment maturity date ranging between April and July 2010. One of these loans is guaranteed by a third party, unrelated to the borrower, and its two principals. The remaining two loans are guaranteed by an affiliate of the borrower and its two principals.

See Note 8 Loans Receivable of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Geographic Diversification

Our portfolio of seniors housing and healthcare-related properties is broadly diversified by geographic location in the United States and Canada, with properties in two states comprising more than 10% of our 2007 total revenues. The following table shows our rental income and resident fees and services derived by geographic location for our portfolio of properties:

Geographic Location	For the Year Ended December 31, 2007	
	Rental Income and Resident Fees and Services (Dollars in thousands)	Percent of Total Revenues
California	\$ 100,479	13.0%
Illinois	83,694	10.8
Massachusetts	49,709	6.4
Pennsylvania	43,332	5.6
Florida	34,398	4.5
New Jersey	32,908	4.3
Ohio	28,662	3.7
Kentucky	25,088	3.3
North Carolina	24,899	3.2
New York	24,662	3.2
Other (33 states)	271,488	35.2
Total U.S	719,319	93.2%
Canada (two Canadian provinces)	46,892	6.1
Total	\$ 766,211	99.3%(1)

(1) The remainder of our total revenues is interest from loans receivable and interest and other income.

Table of Contents*Segment Information*

As of December 31, 2007, we operated through two reportable business segments: triple-net leased properties and senior living operations. See

Note 19 Segment Information of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for more information about our business segments and the geographic diversification of our portfolio of properties.

Certificates of Need

A majority of our skilled nursing facilities and hospitals are located in states that have certificate of need (CON) requirements. A CON, which is issued by a governmental agency with jurisdiction over healthcare facilities, is at times required for expansion of existing facilities, construction of new facilities, addition of beds, acquisition of major items of equipment or introduction of new services. The CON rules and regulations may restrict our or our operators ability to expand our properties in certain circumstances.

The following table shows the percentage of our rental income derived by skilled nursing facilities and hospitals in states with and without CON requirements:

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2007		
	Skilled Nursing Facilities	Hospitals	Total
States with CON requirements	74.0%	51.0%	66.1%
States without CON requirements	26.0	49.0	33.9
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Sunrise REIT Acquisition

On April 26, 2007, we completed the acquisition of all of the assets of Sunrise REIT pursuant to the terms of a purchase agreement dated as of January 14, 2007, as amended, among us, our wholly owned subsidiaries, Ventas SSL Ontario I, Inc. (the Securities Purchaser) and Ventas SSL Ontario II, Inc. (the Asset Purchaser and, together with the Securities Purchaser, the Purchasers), Sunrise REIT, Sunrise REIT Trust (Sub Trust) and Sunrise REIT GP Inc. (Sunrise GP), in its capacity as general partner of Sunrise Canadian UPREIT, LP (UPREIT). The aggregate consideration for the Sunrise REIT acquisition, including the assumption of debt, was approximately \$2.0 billion.

At the effective time of the Sunrise REIT acquisition, the Securities Purchaser purchased all of the interests and assumed all of the liabilities of Sunrise REIT Canadian Holdings Inc. (Canco) and certain of Sunrise REIT s intercompany notes held by Sub Trust, and the Asset Purchaser acquired all of Sunrise REIT s remaining assets and liabilities from Sunrise REIT, Sub Trust and UPREIT. Immediately following the Sunrise REIT acquisition, each unit of beneficial interest of Sunrise REIT outstanding immediately prior to the effective time (except for a small number of non-tendered units) was redeemed for Cdn \$16.50 in cash.

Through the Sunrise REIT acquisition, we acquired a 100% interest in 18 seniors housing communities and a 75% to 85% interest in 59 additional seniors housing communities, with the minority interest in those 59 communities being owned by affiliates of Sunrise. Of the 77 communities, 66 are located in metropolitan areas of 19 U.S. states and eleven are located in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and British Columbia.

As a result of the Sunrise REIT acquisition, we are party to management agreements with Sunrise pursuant to which Sunrise provides comprehensive accounting and property management services with respect to each of the Sunrise REIT properties. Each management agreement has a term of 30 years from its effective date, the

Table of Contents

earliest of which began in 2004. Pursuant to the management agreements, we pay Sunrise a base management fee of 6% of resident fees and similar revenues, subject to reduction based on below target performance for a pool of properties. The minimum management fee assessable under these agreements is 5% of resident fees and similar revenues of the properties. We also pay incentive fees if a pool of properties exceeds aggregate performance targets; provided, however, that total management fees, including incentive fees, shall not exceed 8% of resident fees and similar revenues. The management agreements also specify that we (or the joint venture to which we are party, as applicable) will reimburse Sunrise for direct or indirect costs necessary to manage our seniors housing communities.

Under the terms of the letter agreement dated January 14, 2007 (the Letter Agreement) between us and Sunrise, we modified various management and other agreements and contractual relationships that existed between Sunrise, on the one hand, and Sunrise REIT, on the other hand (the Existing Agreements). Pursuant to the Letter Agreement, the Strategic Alliance Agreement dated as of December 23, 2004 between Sunrise and Sunrise REIT was terminated effective upon the closing of the Sunrise REIT acquisition, except with respect to certain limited provisions. Under the terms of the Letter Agreement, we have, among other things, a right of first offer to acquire seniors housing communities developed by Sunrise in Canada. In addition, we have a right of first offer to acquire seniors housing communities developed by Sunrise in the United States within a demographically defined radius of any of the properties acquired by us in the Sunrise REIT acquisition. The terms of the rights of first offer for properties in both the United States and Canada are governed generally by the terms set forth in the Strategic Alliance Agreement and the fixed price acquisition agreement referred to in the Strategic Alliance Agreement, but subject to modification of those terms to address changes in circumstances and other matters.

The Letter Agreement also (1) provides us assurances that Sunrise will cooperate with us in connection with our compliance with the REIT rules under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), and in connection with our financial reporting obligations, (2) contains restrictions on our rights to transfer our interest in the acquired properties to transferees who compete with Sunrise or who do not meet certain requirements, and (3) provides that Sunrise consents to the Sunrise REIT acquisition and waives certain rights under the Existing Agreements. Although not required, we and Sunrise may enter into various amendments to the Existing Agreements to further address the matters set out in the Letter Agreement.

As a result of the Sunrise REIT acquisition, we assumed all rights and obligations of Sunrise REIT under two fixed price acquisition agreements with Sunrise. Under the terms of these fixed price acquisition agreements, funds were advanced prior to the Sunrise REIT acquisition to Sunrise in connection with the development by Sunrise of seniors housing communities in Staten Island, New York and Vaughan, Ontario. The fixed price acquisition agreements granted to us an option to purchase a majority interest in each of these properties, independently, for a fixed price and on fixed terms, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions. The funds advanced for a property under the fixed price acquisition agreements are advances on the fixed purchase price for the property and are applied to our purchase price for our interest at the closing of the acquisition.

We funded the Sunrise REIT acquisition through \$530.0 million of borrowings under a senior interim loan, an equity-backed facility providing for the issuance of 700,000 shares of our Series A Senior Preferred Stock, with a liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share, and the assumption of \$861.1 million of existing mortgage debt. In May 2007, we completed the sale of 26,910,000 shares of our common stock in an underwritten public offering pursuant to our shelf registration statement. We received \$1.05 billion in net proceeds from the sale, which we used along with the proceeds of the disposition of certain of our Kindred assets (see Note 6 Dispositions of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K) and borrowings under our unsecured revolving credit facility to redeem all of our Series A Senior Preferred Stock and to repay our indebtedness under the senior interim loan.

For the year ended December 31, 2007, we expensed \$5.2 million of preferred stock dividends and issuance costs related to the Series A Senior Preferred Stock and \$5.0 million of fees and interest associated with the

Table of Contents

senior interim loan (the latter of which is included in interest expense in our Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended December 31, 2007 included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K).

On June 19, 2007, we acquired an 80% interest in the seniors housing community located in Staten Island, New York in accordance with the terms of the applicable fixed price acquisition agreement for approximately \$25.5 million, inclusive of our share of assumed debt of \$15.3 million.

On December 11, 2007, we acquired an 80% interest in the seniors housing community located in Vaughan, Ontario in accordance with the terms of the applicable fixed price acquisition agreement for approximately Cdn \$43.6 million, inclusive of our share of assumed debt of Cdn \$23.3 million.

We incurred \$3.0 million of merger-related expenses (that were not capitalized) in connection with the Sunrise REIT acquisition during the year ended December 31, 2007. Merger-related expenses include incremental costs directly related to the acquisition and expenses relating to our lawsuit against HCP, Inc. related to our acquisition of Sunrise REIT, in which we are the plaintiff.

Significant Tenants and Operators

As of December 31, 2007, approximately 39.7%, 22.0% and 14.9% of our properties, based on their original cost, were managed or operated by Sunrise, Brookdale Senior Living and Kindred, respectively. Total revenues attributable to senior living operations managed by Sunrise were \$283.1 million for the period from April 26, 2007 through December 31, 2007, representing 36.2% of our total revenues (including amounts in discontinued operations) for the year ended December 31, 2007. Approximately 15.7% and 30.8% of our total revenues (including amounts in discontinued operations) for the year ended December 31, 2007 were derived from our leases with Brookdale Senior Living and our master lease agreements with Kindred (the Kindred Master Leases), respectively. Our affiliation with Sunrise is a result of the Sunrise REIT acquisition in April 2007. Our affiliation with Brookdale Senior Living is a result of our acquisition of Provident Senior Living Trust (Provident) in June 2005 and the subsequent combination of Brookdale and Alterra under Brookdale Senior Living. Our affiliation with Kindred is a result of our spin off of Kindred in May 1998, pursuant to which we transferred to Kindred our previous hospital, nursing facility and ancillary services businesses and we retained substantially all of the real property which we leased to Kindred.

Triple-Net Leased Properties

Each of our leases with Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living is a triple-net lease pursuant to which the tenant is required to pay all insurance, taxes, utilities and maintenance and repairs related to the properties. In addition, the tenants are required to comply with the terms of the mortgage financing documents, if any, affecting the properties.

Because we lease a substantial portion of our triple-net leased properties to Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living and they are each a significant source of our total revenues, their financial condition and ability and willingness to satisfy their obligations under their respective leases and certain other agreements with us and their willingness to renew those leases upon expiration of the initial base terms thereof will significantly impact our revenues and our ability to service our indebtedness and to make distributions to our stockholders. We cannot assure you that Kindred or Brookdale Senior Living will have sufficient assets, income and access to financing to enable it to satisfy its obligations under its respective leases and other agreements with us, and any inability or unwillingness on its part to do so would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operation and liquidity, on our ability to service our indebtedness and other obligations and on our ability to make distributions to our stockholders, as required for us to continue to qualify as a REIT (a Material Adverse Effect). We also cannot assure you that Kindred and/or Brookdale Senior Living will elect to renew their respective leases with us upon expiration of the initial base terms or any renewal terms thereof. See Risks Arising from Our Business We are dependent on Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living; either of Kindred s or

Table of Contents

Brookdale Senior Living's inability or unwillingness to satisfy its obligations under its agreements with us could significantly harm us and our ability to service our indebtedness and other obligations and to make distributions to our stockholders as required for us to continue to qualify as a REIT included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Kindred Master Leases. The properties leased to Kindred pursuant to the Kindred Master Leases are grouped into renewal bundles, with each bundle containing a varying number of properties. All properties within a bundle have primary terms ranging from ten to 15 years from May 1, 1998 and, provided certain conditions are satisfied, are subject to three five-year renewal terms.

Under each Kindred Master Lease, the aggregate annual rent is referred to as Base Rent (as defined in the applicable Kindred Master Lease). Base Rent escalates on May 1 of each year at a specified rate over the Prior Period Base Rent (as defined in the applicable Kindred Master Lease) contingent upon the satisfaction of specified facility revenue parameters. On October 6, 2006, final appraisers designated by us and Kindred specified that the market annual rent escalator is 2.7% under Kindred Master Leases 1, 3 and 4, and is based on year-over-year changes in the Consumer Price Index, with a floor of 2.25% and a ceiling of 4%, under Kindred Master Lease 2. Assuming the specified revenue parameters are met, Base Rent due under the Kindred Master Leases will be approximately \$241.7 million from May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009. See Note 3 Revenues from Properties of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

On April 27, 2007, Kindred renewed, through April 30, 2013, its leases covering all 64 healthcare assets owned by us (seven of which we subsequently sold on June 30, 2007 (see Note 6 Dispositions of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K)) whose base term would have expired on April 30, 2008. Kindred retains two additional sequential five-year renewal options for these assets.

Brookdale Senior Living Leases. Our leases with Brookdale have primary terms of 15 years, commencing either January 28, 2004 (in the case of 15 Grand Court properties we acquired in early 2004) or October 19, 2004 (in the case of the properties we acquired in connection with the Provident acquisition), and, provided certain conditions are satisfied, are subject to two ten-year renewal terms. Our leases with Alterra also have primary terms of 15 years, commencing either October 20, 2004 or December 16, 2004 (both in the case of properties we acquired in connection with the Provident acquisition), and, provided certain conditions are satisfied, are subject to two five-year renewal terms.

Under the terms of the Brookdale leases assumed in connection with the Provident acquisition, Brookdale is obligated to pay base rent, which escalates on January 1 of each year, by an amount equal to the lesser of (i) four times the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index during the immediately preceding year or (ii) 3%. Under the terms of the Brookdale leases with respect to our Grand Court properties, Brookdale is obligated to pay base rent, which escalates on February 1 of each year, by an amount equal to the greater of (i) 2% or (ii) 75% of the increase in the Consumer Price Index during the immediately preceding year. Under the terms of the Alterra leases, Alterra is obligated to pay base rent, which escalates either on January 1 or November 1 of each year by an amount equal to the lesser of (i) four times the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index during the immediately preceding year or (ii) 2.5%. The aggregate annualized contractual cash base rent expected from Brookdale Senior Living for 2008 is approximately \$106.7 million, excluding variable interest Brookdale is obligated to pay as additional rent based on various variable rate mortgages assumed by us during the Provident acquisition. The aggregate annualized contractual GAAP rent (computed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)), excluding the variable interest, expected from Brookdale Senior Living for 2008 is approximately \$119.9 million. See Note 3 Revenues from Properties and Note 13 Commitments and Contingencies of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

Senior Living Operations

We are party to management agreements with Sunrise pursuant to which Sunrise currently provides comprehensive accounting and property management services with respect to 79 of our seniors housing communities. Each management agreement has a term of 30 years from its effective date, the earliest of which began in 2004.

Although we have various rights as owner under the Sunrise management agreements, we are relying on Sunrise's personnel, good faith, expertise, historical performance, technical resources and information systems, proprietary information and judgment to manage our seniors housing communities efficiently and effectively. Because a significant portion of our properties are managed by Sunrise, its inability to efficiently and effectively manage those properties and to provide timely and accurate accounting information with respect thereto could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. We are also relying on Sunrise to set resident fees and otherwise operate those properties pursuant to our management agreements. A change in the senior management of Sunrise or any adverse developments in Sunrise's business and affairs or financial strength could also have a Material Adverse Effect on us. In addition, any inability or unwillingness on the part of Sunrise to satisfy its obligations under the management agreements it has with us could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Competition

We compete for real property investments with healthcare providers, other healthcare-related REITs, healthcare lenders, real estate partnerships, banks, insurance companies and other investors. Some of our competitors are significantly larger and have greater financial resources and lower cost of capital than we do. Our ability to continue to compete successfully for real property investments will be determined by numerous factors, including our ability to identify suitable acquisition or investment targets, our ability to negotiate acceptable terms for any such acquisition and the availability and cost of capital to us. See *Risks Arising from Our Business*. We may encounter certain risks when implementing our business strategy to pursue investments in, and/or acquisitions or development of, additional seniors housing and/or healthcare-related assets included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and Note 9 *Borrowing Arrangements* of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The operators and managers of our properties compete on a local and regional basis with other seniors housing and healthcare operators and managers. Their ability to compete successfully for residents and patients at our properties depends upon several factors, including the scope and quality of services provided, the ability to attract and retain qualified personnel, the operational reputation of the operator or manager, physician referral patterns, physical appearance of the properties, other competitive systems of healthcare delivery within the community, population and demographics, and the financial condition of the operator or manager. Private, federal and state reimbursement programs and the effect of other laws and regulations also may have a significant impact on our healthcare operators' and managers' ability to compete successfully for residents and patients at the properties. See *Risks Arising from Our Business*. Our tenants, managers and operators may be adversely affected by increasing healthcare regulation and enforcement and Changes in the reimbursement rates or methods of payment from third-party payors, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs, could have a material adverse effect on certain of our tenants and operators included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Employees

As of December 31, 2007, we had 53 full-time employees. We consider the relationship with our employees to be good.

Insurance

We maintain and/or require in our existing leases or other agreements that our tenants, managers and operators maintain liability and casualty insurance on our properties and their operations. For example, under the

Table of Contents

Kindred Master Leases, Kindred is required to maintain, at its expense, certain insurance coverage related to the properties under the Kindred Master Leases and Kindred's operations at those properties. However, we cannot assure you that Kindred or our other tenants, managers and operators will maintain such insurance, and any failure by our tenants, managers and operators to do so could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. We believe that our tenants, managers and operators are in substantial compliance with the insurance requirements contained in their respective leases and other agreements with us.

General and professional liability and casualty insurance covering our properties managed by Sunrise and the related operations is currently maintained by Sunrise in accordance with the standards contained in our management agreement with Sunrise. On an annual basis, we may elect to opt in or out of the Sunrise insurance program. If we choose to opt out of the Sunrise insurance program, we would maintain general and professional liability and casualty insurance for our Sunrise-managed properties in accordance with the standards contained in our Sunrise management agreements. Regardless of who maintains this insurance, however, the costs of the insurance program covering our Sunrise-managed properties are facility expenses paid from the revenues of these properties.

We believe that the amount and scope of insurance coverage provided by our own and our tenants', managers' and operators' policies are customary for similarly situated companies in our industry. We cannot assure you that in the future such insurance will be available at a reasonable price or that we will be able to maintain adequate levels of insurance coverage.

Due to historically high frequency and severity of professional liability claims against healthcare providers, the availability of professional liability insurance has been restricted and the premiums for such insurance coverage remain very high. As a result, many healthcare providers may incur large funded and unfunded professional liability expense, which could have a material adverse effect on their liquidity, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, many healthcare providers are pursuing different organizational and corporate structures coupled with insurance programs that provide less insurance coverage. Therefore, we cannot assure you that our tenants, managers and operators will continue to carry the insurance coverage required under the terms of their leases and other agreements with us or that we will continue to require the same levels of insurance under those leases and agreements.

Additional Information

We maintain a website at www.ventasreit.com. The information on our website is not incorporated by reference in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, and our web address is included as an inactive textual reference only.

We make available, free of charge, through our website our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Commission. In addition, our Guidelines on Governance, the charters for each of our Audit and Compliance, Nominating and Governance and Executive Compensation Committees and our Code of Ethics and Business Conduct are available on our website, and we will mail copies of the foregoing documents to stockholders, free of charge, upon request to Corporate Secretary, Ventas, Inc., 10350 Ormsby Park Place, Suite 300, Louisville, Kentucky 40223.

Table of Contents

GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION

Healthcare Regulation

General

The operators of certain of our properties derive a substantial portion of their revenues from third-party payors, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Medicare is a federal program that provides certain hospital and medical insurance benefits to persons age 65 and over, certain disabled persons and persons with end-stage renal disease. Medicaid is a medical assistance program jointly funded by federal and state governments and administered by each state pursuant to which benefits are available to certain indigent patients. The Medicare and Medicaid statutory framework is subject to administrative rulings, interpretations and discretion that affect the amount and timing of reimbursement made under Medicare and Medicaid. The amounts of program payments received by our operators and tenants can be changed from time to time, and at any time, by legislative or regulatory actions and by determinations by agents for the programs. See Healthcare Reform. Such changes may be applied retroactively under certain circumstances. In addition, private payors, including managed care payors, continually demand discounted fee structures and the assumption by healthcare providers of all or a portion of the financial risk. Efforts to impose greater discounts and more stringent cost controls upon operators by private payors are expected to intensify and continue. We cannot assure you that adequate third-party reimbursement levels will continue to be available for services to be provided by the operators of our properties which currently are being reimbursed by Medicare, Medicaid and private payors. Significant limits on the scope of services reimbursed and on reimbursement rates and fees could have a material adverse effect on these operators' liquidity, financial condition and results of operations, which could affect adversely their ability to make rental payments under, and otherwise comply with the terms of, their leases with us.

The operators of certain of our properties are subject to other extensive federal, state and local laws and regulations including, but not limited to, laws and regulations relating to licensure, conduct of operations, ownership of facilities, addition of facilities, services, prices for services, billing for services, and the confidentiality and security of health-related information. These laws authorize periodic inspections and investigations, and identification of deficiencies that, if not corrected, can result in sanctions that include suspension or loss of licensure to operate and loss of rights to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Regulatory agencies have substantial powers to affect the actions of operators of our properties if the agencies believe that there is an imminent threat to patient welfare, and in some states these powers can include assumption of interim control over facilities through receiverships.

Seniors Housing Communities. Our seniors housing communities include independent and assisted living communities, and communities providing care for individuals with Alzheimer's and other forms of memory loss. These communities offer residential units on a month-to-month basis primarily to elderly individuals requiring various levels of assistance. Basic services for residents of these communities include housekeeping, meals in a central dining area and group activities organized by the staff with input from the residents. More extensive care and personal supervision, at additional fees, are also available for such needs as eating, bathing, grooming, transportation, limited therapeutic programs and medication administration, all of which encourage the residents to live as independently as possible according to their abilities. These services are often met by home health providers, close coordination with the residents' physician and skilled nursing facilities.

Seniors housing communities are subject to relatively few, if any, federal regulations. Instead, to the extent they are regulated, the regulation is conducted mainly by state and local laws which govern the licensing of beds, the provision of services, staffing requirements and other operational matters. However, these state laws vary greatly from one state to another.

The recent increase in the number of seniors housing communities around the country has attracted the attention of various federal agencies which believe there should be more federal regulation of these properties.

Table of Contents

To date, Congress has deferred to state regulation of seniors housing communities. As a result of the increased federal scrutiny along with the rapid increase in the number of these properties, some states have revised and strengthened their regulation of seniors housing communities. More states are expected to do the same in the future.

Skilled Nursing Facilities. The operators of our skilled nursing facilities generally are licensed on an annual or bi-annual basis and certified annually for participation in the Medicare and Medicaid programs through various regulatory agencies which determine compliance with federal, state and local laws. These legal requirements relate to the quality of the nursing care provided, qualifications of the administrative personnel and nursing staff, the adequacy of the physical plant and equipment and continuing compliance with the laws and regulations governing the operation of nursing facilities. A loss of licensure or certification could adversely affect a nursing facility's ability to receive payments from the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which, in turn, could adversely impact the operator's ability to make rental payments under its leases with us.

Hospitals. Substantially all of our hospitals are operated as long-term acute care hospitals, which are hospitals that have a Medicare average length of stay greater than 25 days. Our hospitals are freestanding facilities, and we do not own any hospitals within hospitals. In order to receive Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, each hospital must meet the applicable conditions of participation set forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) relating to the type of hospital and its equipment, personnel and standard of medical care, as well as comply with state and local laws and regulations. Hospitals undergo periodic on-site licensure surveys, which generally are limited if the hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations or other recognized accreditation organizations. A loss of licensure or certification could adversely affect a hospital's ability to receive payments from the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which, in turn, could adversely impact the operator's ability to make rental payments under its leases with us.

Any significant expansion in the number or type of, or a violation of any of, these federal, state or local laws and regulations also could have a material adverse effect on our operators' liquidity, financial condition and results of operations, which, in turn, could adversely impact their ability to make rental payments under, or otherwise comply with the terms of, their leases with us.

Certificates of Need

Some states require state approval for development and expansion of healthcare facilities and services, including findings of need for additional or expanded healthcare facilities or services. A CON is issued by a governmental agency with jurisdiction over healthcare facilities and is at times required for expansion of existing facilities, construction of new facilities, addition of beds, and acquisition of major items of equipment or introduction of new services. The CON rules and regulations may restrict an operator's ability to expand our properties in certain circumstances.

In the last several years, in response to mounting Medicaid budget deficits, many states have begun to tighten CON controls, including the imposition of moratoriums on new nursing facilities and hospitals. Some states have also increased controls over licensing and change-of-ownership rules.

In the event that any operator of our properties fails to make rental payments to us or to comply with the applicable healthcare regulations, and, in either case, the operator or its lenders fail to cure the default prior to the expiration of the applicable cure period, our ability to evict that operator and substitute another operator or operators may be materially delayed or limited by various state licensing, receivership, CON or other laws, as well as by Medicare and Medicaid change-of-ownership rules. Such delays and limitations could have a material adverse effect on our ability to collect rent, to obtain possession of leased properties, or otherwise to exercise remedies for tenant default. In addition, we may also incur substantial additional expenses in connection with any such licensing, receivership or change-of-ownership proceedings.

Table of Contents

Fraud and Abuse

There are extensive federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting fraud and abuse in the healthcare industry, the violation of which could result in significant criminal and civil penalties that can materially affect the operators of our properties. The federal laws include:

The anti-kickback statute (Section 1128B(b) of the Social Security Act), which prohibits certain business practices and relationships that might affect the provision and cost of healthcare services reimbursable under Medicare, Medicaid and other federal healthcare programs, including the payment or receipt of remuneration for the referral of patients whose care will be paid by Medicare or other governmental programs.

The physician self-referral prohibition (Ethics in Patient Referral Act of 1989, commonly referred to as the Stark Law), which prohibits referrals by physicians of Medicare patients to providers of a broad range of designated healthcare services with which the physicians (or their immediate family members) or Medicaid have ownership interests or certain other financial arrangements.

The False Claims Act, which prohibits any person from knowingly presenting false or fraudulent claims for payment to the federal government (including the Medicare and Medicaid programs).

The Civil Monetary Penalties Law, which authorizes HHS to impose civil penalties administratively for fraudulent acts.

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (commonly referred to as HIPAA), which among other things, protects the privacy and security of individually identifiable health information by limiting its use and disclosure.

Sanctions for violating these federal laws include criminal and civil penalties that range from punitive sanctions, damage assessments, money penalties, imprisonment, denial of Medicare and Medicaid payments, and/or exclusion from the Medicare and Medicaid programs. These laws also impose an affirmative duty on operators to ensure that they do not employ or contract with persons excluded from the Medicare and other government programs.

Many states have adopted or are considering legislative proposals similar to the federal fraud and abuse laws, some of which extend beyond the Medicare and Medicaid programs to prohibit the payment or receipt of remuneration for the referral of patients and physician self-referrals regardless of whether the service was reimbursed by Medicare or Medicaid. Many states have also adopted or are considering legislative proposals to increase patient protections, such as minimum staffing levels, criminal background checks, and limiting the use and disclosure of patient specific health information. These state laws also impose criminal and civil penalties similar to the federal laws.

In the ordinary course of their business, the operators of our properties have been and are subject regularly to inquiries, investigations and audits by federal and state agencies that oversee these laws and regulations. Increased funding through recent federal and state legislation has led to a dramatic increase in the number of investigations and enforcement actions over the past several years. Private enforcement of healthcare fraud also has increased due in large part to amendments to the civil False Claims Act in 1986 that were designed to encourage private individuals to sue on behalf of the government. These whistleblower suits by private individuals, known as qui tam suits, may be filed by almost anyone, including present and former patients or nurses and other employees. HIPAA also created a series of new healthcare-related crimes.

As federal and state budget pressures continue, federal and state administrative agencies may also continue to escalate investigation and enforcement efforts to eliminate waste and to control fraud and abuse in governmental healthcare programs. A violation of any of these federal and state fraud and abuse laws and regulations could have a material adverse effect on our operators' liquidity, financial condition and results of operations, which could affect adversely their ability to make rental payments under, or otherwise comply with the terms of, their leases with us.

Table of Contents

Healthcare Reform

Healthcare is one of the largest industries in the United States and continues to attract much legislative interest and public attention. In an effort to reduce federal spending on healthcare, in 1997 the federal government enacted the Balanced Budget Act (BBA), which contained extensive changes to the Medicare and Medicaid programs, including substantial Medicare reimbursement reductions for healthcare operations. For certain healthcare providers, including hospitals and skilled nursing facilities, implementation of the BBA resulted in more drastic reimbursement reductions than had been anticipated. In addition to its impact on Medicare, the BBA also afforded states more flexibility in administering their Medicaid plans, including the ability to shift most Medicaid enrollees into managed care plans without first obtaining a federal waiver.

The following key legislative and regulatory changes have been made to the BBA to provide some relief from the drastic reductions in Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement resulting from implementation of the BBA:

The Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 (BBRA);

The Medicare, Medicaid, and State Child Health Insurance Program Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (BIPA);

The one-time administrative fix to increase skilled nursing facility payment rates by 3.26%, instituted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) beginning on October 1, 2003;

The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Medicare Modernization Act, sometimes referred to as the Drug Bill);

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (Pub. L No. 109-171) (DRA); and

The Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (Pub. L. No. 109-432).

The Medicare and Medicaid programs, including payment levels and methods, are continually evolving and are less predictable following the enactment of BBA and the subsequent reform activities. We cannot assure you that future healthcare legislation or changes in the administration or implementation of governmental healthcare reimbursement programs will not have a material adverse effect on our operators' liquidity, financial condition or results of operations, which could adversely affect their ability to make rental payments to us and which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Medicare Reimbursement; Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals

The BBA mandated the creation of a prospective payment system for long-term acute care hospitals (LTAC PPS), which became effective on October 1, 2002 for cost reporting periods commencing on or after October 1, 2002. All long-term acute care hospitals are required to have transitioned to LTAC PPS, which classifies patients into distinct diagnostic groups based on clinical characteristics and expected resource needs.

Under LTAC PPS, long-term acute care hospitals are reimbursed on a predetermined rate rather than on a reasonable cost basis that reflects costs incurred. LTAC PPS requires payment for a Medicare beneficiary at a predetermined, per discharge amount for each defined patient category (called Long-Term Care Diagnosis Related Groups or LTC-DRGs), adjusted for differences in area wage levels.

Updates to the LTAC PPS payment rates are published annually for the long-term acute care hospital rate year (July 1 through June 30). However, annual updates to the LTAC PPS classification system and its relative weighting system (LTC-DRGs) continue to coincide with the federal fiscal year (October 1 through September 30), as with the prospective payment system for short-term acute care hospitals. These updates are established by regulators each year.

Table of Contents

On May 11, 2007, CMS published its final rule updating LTAC PPS payment rates for the 2008 rate year (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008). On July 5, 2007, CMS published corrections to the final rule. The corrected final rule makes many technical changes and adjustments to LTAC PPS, including increasing the standard federal payment rate by 0.71% (which, owing to other changes, will on average represent a 0.6% increase), revising the payment methodologies impacting short-stay outliers, adjusting the wage index component of the federal payment and increasing the high cost outlier threshold. CMS estimates that, due to these changes and adjustments, payments per discharge are expected to decrease in the 2008 rate year by 1.2% on average, when compared to average payments for the 2007 rate year. The corrected final rule also expands the so-called 25-percent rule, which limits payments from referring co-located hospitals, to all long-term acute care hospitals. The 25-percent rule is being phased in over a three-year period, and CMS projects that it will not result in payment reductions in the first year of implementation. The expansion of the 25-percent rule contained in the corrected final rule could, however, reduce the caseloads or affect the referral patterns of the long-term acute care hospitals operated by our tenants.

On August 22, 2007, CMS published its final rule to update and reform the inpatient prospective payment system (IPPS) for short-term and long-term acute care hospitals for the 2008 federal fiscal year (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008). On October 10, 2007, CMS published corrections to the final rule. The reforms in the corrected final rule are intended to improve the accuracy of Medicare payments for inpatient acute care. The final rule creates 745 new severity-adjusted diagnosis-related groups (DRGs) (Medicare Severity DRGs or MS-DRGs) to replace the current 538 DRGs. CMS projects that aggregate annual spending from the reforms will not change. However, CMS expects that payments would increase for hospitals serving more severely ill patients and decrease for hospitals serving patients who are less severely ill.

On September 27, 2007, the U.S. Congress passed the TMA, Abstinence Education, and QI Programs Extension Act of 2007, which was signed into law by President Bush on September 29, 2007. The bill reduced a planned behavioral offset to the MS-DRGs to -0.6% from -1.2% in federal fiscal year 2008 and to -0.9% from -1.8% in federal fiscal year 2009. The changes to the prospective cuts will result in a restoration of Medicare payment cuts to IPPS hospitals of \$2.5 billion over the next two years and \$7 billion over the next five years, assuming no additional retrospective adjustments are made. The bill also includes a lookback provision, which directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to adjust for hospital overpayments or underpayments if the remaining prospective cuts do not accurately account for real changes in case mix once the new MS-DRG system is fully implemented by 2010.

On December 29, 2007, President Bush signed into law the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (the Medicare Extension Act). Section 114 of the Medicare Extension Act is intended to implement the recommendations of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) to better define long-term acute care hospitals and the patients they treat by using better patient and facility-level criteria. Long-term acute care hospitals must institute a patient review process to better assess patients upon admission and on a continuing basis for appropriateness of care. CMS medical necessity reviews for long-term acute care hospitals will be significantly expanded. Section 114 of the Medicare Extension Act, among other things, also provides the following relief from recent long-term acute care hospital payment policy changes:

it prevents CMS from applying the 25-percent rule for three years to freestanding and grandfathered long-term acute care hospitals;

it modifies the application of the 25-percent rule to certain urban and rural long-term acute care hospitals-within-hospitals and satellite facilities for three years;

it prevents CMS from applying the very short stay outlier policy for three years; and

it prevents CMS for three years from making any one-time adjustments to correct estimates used in implementing LTAC PPS.

Table of Contents

Lastly, the Medicare Extension Act places a partial-year freeze on long-term acute care hospital rates in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2008 (from April 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008) and introduces a moratorium on new long-term acute care hospitals and beds for three years.

On January 29, 2008, CMS issued a proposed rule proposing an increase of 2.6% in annual payment rates for the 2009 rate year (proposed as July 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009). CMS believes this proposal complies with the Medicare Extension Act. The proposed rule includes a 3.5% increase in the hospital market basket index, less a 0.9% adjustment to offset recent coding behavioral changes. CMS estimates aggregate long-term acute care hospital payments to reach approximately \$4.44 billion under the proposed rule, an increase of approximately \$124 million over the 2008 rate year. CMS is also proposing to change the annual rate update back to October 1 to coincide with the annual update to MS-DRG classifications and weights, etc. Accordingly, this 2009 rate year update will be effective for a 15-month period (July 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009). Lastly, the proposed rule is proposing to increase the fixed-loss threshold amount for high cost outlier cases by 2% to \$21,199, from \$20,738. The proposed rule is subject to a 60-day comment period.

We cannot assure you that future updates to the LTAC PPS system or Medicare reimbursement for long-term acute care hospitals will not materially adversely affect our operators, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. See *Risks Arising from Our Business* Changes in the reimbursement rates or methods of payment from third-party payors, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs, could have a material adverse effect on certain of our tenants and operators included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Medicare Reimbursement; Skilled Nursing Facilities

The BBA also established a prospective payment system for skilled nursing facilities (SNF PPS) offering Part A covered services. Under the SNF PPS, payment amounts are based upon classifications determined through assessments of individual Medicare patients in the skilled nursing facility, rather than on the facility's reasonable costs. The payments received under the SNF PPS are intended generally to cover all inpatient services for Medicare patients, including routine nursing care, most capital-related costs associated with the inpatient stay, and ancillary services, such as respiratory therapy, occupational and physical therapy, speech therapy and certain covered drugs. Under the SNF PPS, per diem payments are made to nursing home facilities for each resident.

In response to widespread healthcare industry concern about the reductions in payments under BBA, the federal government enacted BBRA on November 29, 1999. BBRA increased the per diem reimbursement rates for certain high acuity patients by 20% starting April 1, 2000 and continuing until case mix refinements were implemented by CMS, as explained below. Under BBRA, outpatient rehabilitation therapy providers, including Part B nursing facilities, also received a two-year moratorium on the annual cap on the amount of physical, occupational and speech therapy provided to a patient, which moratorium was subsequently extended until December 31, 2005 pursuant to the Medicare Modernization Act. On January 1, 2006, these therapy limitations went into effect until the DRA was enacted. This new law, signed by President Bush on February 8, 2006, retroactively established an exception process for the payment of all claims above the limits when such services are medically necessary. Under CMS's final rule updating LTC-DRGs for the 2007 federal fiscal year, the annual cap on Medicare part B reimbursement for physical therapy and speech-language pathology services and the separate annual cap on occupational therapy were lifted for those patients who can demonstrate medical necessity. On December 20, 2006, the President signed into law the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006, which, among other things, extended the DRA process for obtaining relief from the therapy caps through December 31, 2007. The DRA process was again extended through June 30, 2008 by Section 105 of the Medicare Extension Act.

In addition, under CMS's final rule updating LTC-DRGs for federal fiscal year 2007, reimbursement of uncollectible Medicare coinsurance amounts for all beneficiaries (other than beneficiaries of both Medicare and Medicaid) is reduced from 100% to 70% for skilled nursing facility cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 2005. CMS estimates that the change in treatment of bad debt will result in a decrease in payments to

Table of Contents

skilled nursing facilities of \$490 million over the five-year period from federal fiscal year 2006 to 2010. The rule also includes various options for classifying and weighting patients transferred to a skilled nursing facility after a hospital stay less than the mean length of stay associated with that particular diagnosis-related group. This change in methodology could affect skilled nursing facility admissions, although we currently cannot predict what impact it will have on the liquidity or profitability of our skilled nursing facility operators.

Pursuant to CMS's final rule updating SNF PPS for the 2006 federal fiscal year, CMS, among other things, refined the resource utilization groups (RUGs) used to determine the daily payment for beneficiaries in skilled nursing facilities by adding nine new payment categories. The result of this refinement, which became effective on January 1, 2006, was to eliminate the temporary add-on payments that Congress enacted as part of the BBRA.

On November 1, 2006, the Secretary of Health and Human Services placed on public display his five-year review and update to the Medicare physician fee schedule entitled: Medicare Program; Revisions to Payment Policies, Five-Year Review of Work Relative Value Units, Changes to the Practice Expense Methodology Under the Physician Fee Schedule, and Other Changes to Payment Under Part B; Revisions to the Payment Policies of Ambulance Services Under the Fee Schedule for Ambulance Services; and Ambulance Inflation Factor Update for CY 2007. This final rule with a comment period was scheduled to be effective on January 1, 2007. The reduction in fees for physician and therapy services was overturned on December 20, 2006, when President Bush signed into law the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006, which, among other things, reduced the overall payment reduction of 5% to zero.

On August 3, 2007, CMS published its final rule for SNF PPS and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities for the 2008 federal fiscal year (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008). The final rule, among other things, updates the SNF PPS rates by increasing the market basket by 3.3% and makes various other technical changes, the economic effects of which have not yet been analyzed. However, the market basket increase provided under this rule can be overridden by Congressional legislation. In addition, the President's proposed 2009 budget contains provisions that, if implemented, could reduce or slow the growth in Medicare reimbursement rates for skilled nursing facilities.

We cannot assure you that future updates to the SNF PPS system, therapy services or Medicare reimbursement for skilled nursing facilities will not materially adversely impact our operators, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. See Risks Arising from Our Business Changes in the reimbursement rates or methods of payment from third-party payors, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs, could have a material adverse effect on certain of our tenants and operators included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Medicaid Reimbursement; Skilled Nursing Facilities

Approximately two-thirds of all nursing home residents are dependent on Medicaid. Medicaid reimbursement rates, however, typically are less than the amounts charged by the operators of our properties. BBA repealed the Boren Amendment federal payment standard for Medicaid payments to hospitals and skilled nursing facilities effective October 1, 1997, giving states greater latitude in setting payment rates for these providers. Furthermore, federal legislation restricts a skilled nursing facility operator's ability to withdraw from the Medicaid program by restricting the eviction or transfer of Medicaid residents.

For the last several years, many states have announced actual or potential budget shortfalls. As a result of these budget shortfalls, many states have implemented, are implementing or considering implementing freezes or cuts in Medicaid rates paid to providers, including hospitals and skilled nursing facilities. Changes to Medicaid eligibility criteria are also possible thereby reducing the number of beneficiaries eligible to have their medical care reimbursed by government sources.

In the DRA, Congress made changes to the Medicaid program that are estimated to result in \$10 billion in savings to the federal government over five years following enactment of the legislation primarily through the accounting practices some states use to calculate their matched payments and revising the qualifications for

Table of Contents

individuals who are eligible for Medicaid benefits. The changes made by the CMS's final rule updating SNF PPS for the 2006 federal fiscal year described above are also anticipated to reduce Medicaid payments to skilled nursing facility operators in the future. In addition, as part of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006, Congress reduced the ceiling on taxes that states may impose on healthcare providers and which would qualify for federal financial participation under Medicaid by 0.5%, from 6% to 5.5%. Nationally, it is anticipated that this reduction should have a negligible effect, affecting only those states with taxes in excess of 5.5%. We have not yet ascertained the impact of this reduction on our skilled nursing facility operators.

At this time, it is not possible to predict whether significant Medicaid rate freezes or cuts or other program changes will be adopted and if so, by how many states or whether the U.S. government will revoke, reduce or stop approving provider taxes that have the effect of increasing Medicaid payments to the states, or the impact of such actions on our operators. However, severe and widespread Medicaid rate cuts or freezes could have a material adverse effect on our skilled nursing facility operators, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Nursing Home Quality Initiative

In 2002, HHS launched the Nursing Home Quality Initiative program. This program, which is designed to provide consumers with comparative information about nursing home quality measures, rates nursing homes on various quality of care indicators. Since 2002, investigative and enforcement activities regarding nursing home quality compliance has intensified both on the federal and state administrative levels.

If the operators of certain of our properties are unable to achieve quality of care ratings that are comparable or superior to those of their competitors, patients may choose alternate facilities, which could cause operating revenues to decline. In the event the financial condition or operating revenues of these operators are adversely affected, the operators' ability to make rental payments to us could be adversely affected, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Environmental Regulation

As an owner of real property, we are subject to various federal, state and local laws and regulations regarding environmental, health and safety matters. These laws and regulations address, among other things, asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls, fuel oil management, wastewater discharges, air emissions, radioactive materials, medical wastes, and hazardous wastes. In certain cases, the costs of complying with these laws and regulations and the penalties for non-compliance can be substantial. For example, although we do not generally operate or manage our properties, we may be held primarily or jointly and severally liable for costs relating to the investigation and clean-up of any property from which there is or has been a release or threatened release of a hazardous or toxic substance and any other affected properties, regardless of whether we knew of or caused the release. In addition to these costs, which are typically not limited by law or regulation and could exceed the property's value, we could be liable for certain other costs, including governmental fines and injuries to persons or property. See *Risks Arising from Our Business*. If any of our properties are found to be contaminated, or if we become involved in any environmental disputes, we could incur substantial liabilities and costs included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

We are generally indemnified by the current operators of our properties for contamination caused by those operators. For example, under the Kindred Master Leases, Kindred has agreed to indemnify us against any environmental claims (including penalties and clean-up costs) resulting from any condition arising in, on or under, or relating to, the leased properties at any time on or after the lease commencement date for the applicable leased property and from any condition permitted to deteriorate on or after such date (including as a result of migration from adjacent properties not owned or operated by us or any of our affiliates other than Kindred and its direct affiliates). However, we cannot assure you that Kindred or another operator will have the financial capability or the willingness to satisfy any such environmental claims, and in the event Kindred or another

Table of Contents

operator is unable or unwilling to do so, we may be required to satisfy the claims. See **Risks Arising from Our Business** We are dependent on Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living; Kindred's or Brookdale Senior Living's inability or unwillingness to satisfy its obligations under its agreements with us could significantly harm us and our ability to service our indebtedness and other obligations and to make distributions to our stockholders, as required for us to continue to qualify as a REIT included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

We have also generally agreed to indemnify certain of our operators against any environmental claims (including penalties and clean-up costs) resulting from any condition arising in, on or under, or relating to, the leased properties at any time before the lease commencement date for the applicable leased property. We have agreed to indemnify Sunrise against any environmental claims (including penalties and clean-up costs) resulting from any conditions on our properties managed by Sunrise, unless Sunrise caused or contributed to those conditions.

We did not make any material capital expenditures in connection with these environmental, health, and safety laws, ordinances and regulations in 2007 and do not expect that we will have to make any such material capital expenditures during 2008.

CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

This section summarizes certain U.S. federal income tax considerations that you may consider relevant as a holder of our common stock. It is not tax advice. The discussion does not address all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to particular stockholders in light of their personal investment or tax circumstances, nor does it apply to certain types of stockholders that are subject to special treatment under the federal income tax laws, such as insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations (except to the extent discussed below under **Treatment of Tax-Exempt Stockholders**), financial institutions, pass-through entities (or investors in such entities) or broker-dealers, and non-U.S. persons and foreign corporations (except to the extent discussed below under **Special Tax Considerations for Non-U.S. Stockholders**).

The statements in this section are based on the Code, Treasury Regulations and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof. The laws governing the federal income tax treatment of REITs and their stockholders are highly technical and complex, and this summary is qualified in its entirety by the authorities listed above, as in effect on the date hereof. We cannot assure you that new laws, interpretations of law or court decisions, any of which may take effect retroactively, will not cause any statement in this section to be inaccurate.

Federal Income Taxation of Ventas

We elected REIT status beginning with the year ended December 31, 1999. Beginning with the 1999 tax year, we believe that we have satisfied the requirements to qualify as a REIT, and we intend to continue to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. If we continue to qualify for taxation as a REIT, we generally will not be subject to federal income tax on net income that we currently distribute to stockholders. This treatment substantially eliminates the **double taxation** (i.e., taxation at both the corporate and stockholder levels) that generally results from investment in a corporation.

Notwithstanding our qualification as a REIT, we will be subject to federal income tax on any undistributed taxable income, including undistributed net capital gains, at regular corporate rates. In addition, we will be subject to a 4% excise tax if we do not satisfy specific REIT distribution requirements. See **Requirements for Qualification as a REIT Annual Distribution Requirements**. Under certain circumstances, we may be subject to the **alternative minimum tax** on our undistributed items of tax preference. If we have (i) net income from the sale or other disposition of **foreclosure property** (see below) that is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business or (ii) certain other non-qualifying income from foreclosure property, we will be subject to tax at the highest corporate rate on such income. See **Requirements for Qualification as a REIT**

Table of Contents

Asset Tests. In addition, if we have net income from prohibited transactions (which are, in general, certain sales or other dispositions of property (other than foreclosure property) held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business), that income will be subject to a 100% tax.

We may also be subject to Built-in Gains Tax on any appreciated asset that we own or acquire that was previously owned by a C corporation (i.e., a corporation generally subject to full corporate level tax). If we dispose of any of these assets and recognize gain on the disposition of such asset during the ten-year period immediately after the assets were owned by a C corporation (either prior to our REIT election, or through stock acquisition or merger), then we generally will be subject to regular corporate income tax on the gain equal to the lower of (i) the recognized gain at the time of the disposition or (ii) the built-in gain in that asset as of the date it became a REIT asset.

In addition, if we should fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test (as discussed below) and nonetheless have maintained our qualification as a REIT because certain other requirements have been met, we will be subject to a 100% tax on the gross income attributable to the greater of the amount by which we failed the 75% or 95% tests (or, for our 2001 through 2004 taxable years, a 90% test in lieu of the 95% test), multiplied by a fraction intended to reflect our profitability. Further, if we were to violate one or more of the REIT asset tests (as discussed below) under certain circumstances, but the violation was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect and we were to take certain remedial actions, we may avoid a loss of our REIT status by, among other things, paying a tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 or the highest corporate tax rate multiplied by the net income generated by the non-qualifying asset during a specified period. In addition, if we should fail to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification, other than the 75% and 95% gross income tests and other than the assets test, but nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT because certain other requirements have been met, we may be subject to a \$50,000 penalty for each failure. Finally, we will incur a 100% excise tax on certain transactions with a taxable REIT subsidiary that are not conducted on an arm's-length basis.

See Requirements for Qualification as a REIT below for other circumstances in which we may be required to pay federal taxes.

Requirements for Qualification as a REIT

To qualify as a REIT, we must meet the requirements discussed below, relating to our organization, sources of income, nature of assets and distributions of income to stockholders.

Organizational Requirements

The Code defines a REIT as a corporation, trust or association: (i) that is managed by one or more directors or trustees; (ii) the beneficial ownership of which is evidenced by transferable shares or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest; (iii) that would be taxable as a domestic corporation, but for Sections 856 through 859 of the Code; (iv) that is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company subject to certain provisions of the Code; (v) the beneficial ownership of which is held by 100 or more persons during at least 335 days of a taxable year of twelve months, or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year (the 100 Shareholder Rule); (vi) not more than 50% in value of the outstanding stock of which is owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals (as defined in the Code to include certain entities) during the last half of each taxable year (the 5/50 Rule); (vii) that makes an election to be a REIT (or has made such election for a previous taxable year) and satisfies all relevant filing and other administrative requirements established by the IRS that must be met in order to elect and to maintain REIT status; (viii) that uses a calendar year for federal income tax purposes; and (ix) that meets certain other tests, described below, regarding the nature of its income and assets.

We believe, but we cannot assure you, that we have satisfied and will continue to satisfy the organizational requirements. In order to prevent a concentration of ownership of our stock that would cause us to fail the 5/50

Table of Contents

Rule or the 100 Shareholder Rule, we have placed certain restrictions on the transfer of our shares that are intended to prevent such concentration of share ownership. However, such restrictions may not prevent us from failing to meet these requirements, and thereby failing to qualify as a REIT.

In addition, to qualify as a REIT, a corporation may not have (as of the end of the taxable year) any earnings and profits that were accumulated in periods before it elected REIT status. We believe that we have not had any accumulated earnings and profits that are attributable to non-REIT periods, although the IRS is entitled to challenge that determination.

Gross Income Tests

To qualify as a REIT, we must satisfy two annual gross income requirements. First, at least 75% of our gross income (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions) for each taxable year must consist of defined types of income derived directly or indirectly from investments relating to real property or mortgages on real property (including pledges of equity interest in certain entities holding real property and also including rents from real property (as defined in the Code)) and, in certain circumstances, interest on certain types of temporary investment income. Second, at least 95% of our gross income (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions) for each taxable year must be derived from such real property or temporary investments, dividends, interest and gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities, or from any combination of the foregoing.

We believe, but we cannot assure you, that we have been and will continue to be in compliance with the gross income tests. If we fail to satisfy one or both gross income tests for any taxable year, we may nevertheless qualify as a REIT for the year under certain relief provisions of the Code. If we were eligible to qualify under the relief provisions, a 100% tax would be imposed with respect to the income exceeding one or both of the gross income tests.

If we fail to satisfy one or both of the gross income tests and the relief provisions for any year, we will not qualify as a REIT for such year. If we lose our REIT status, it would have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Asset Tests

At the close of each quarter of our taxable year, we must satisfy the following tests relating to the nature of our assets. First, at least 75% of the value of our total assets must be represented by cash or cash items (including certain receivables), government securities, real estate assets (including interest in real property and in mortgages on real property and shares in other qualifying REITs) or, in cases where we raise new capital through stock or long-term (maturity of at least five years) debt offerings, temporary investments in stock or debt instruments during the one-year period following our receipt of such capital (the 75% asset test). Second, of the investments not meeting the requirements of the 75% asset test, the value of any one issuer's debt and equity securities owned by us (other than our interest in any entity classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, the stock of a taxable REIT subsidiary (as defined below) or the stock of a qualified REIT subsidiary) may not exceed 5% of the value of our total assets (the 5% asset test), and we may not own more than 10% of any one issuer's outstanding voting securities (the 10% voting securities test) or 10% of the value of any one issuer's outstanding securities, subject to limited safe harbor exceptions (the 10% value test). In addition, no more than 20% of the value of our assets can be represented by securities of taxable REIT subsidiaries (the 20% TRS test).

If we fail to satisfy the asset tests at the end of any quarter other than our first quarter, we may nevertheless continue to qualify as a REIT and maintain our REIT status if (i) we satisfied all of the asset tests at the close of the preceding calendar quarter and (ii) the discrepancy between the value of our assets and the asset test requirements arose from changes in the market values of our assets and was not wholly or partly caused by an acquisition of nonqualifying assets.

Table of Contents

Furthermore, if we fail any of the asset tests discussed above at the end of any quarter without curing such failure within 30 days after the end of such quarter, we would fail to qualify as a REIT, unless we were to qualify under certain relief provisions enacted as part of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. Under one of these relief provisions, if we were to fail the 5% asset test, the 10% voting securities test or the 10% value test, we nevertheless would continue to qualify as a REIT if the failure was due to the ownership of assets having a total value not exceeding the lesser of 1% of our assets at the end of the relevant quarter or \$10 million, and we were to dispose of such assets (or otherwise meet such asset tests) within six months after the end of the quarter in which the failure was identified. If we were to fail to meet any of the REIT asset tests for a particular quarter, but we did not qualify for the relief for de minimis failures that is described in the preceding sentence, then we would be deemed to have satisfied the relevant asset test if: (i) following our identification of the failure, we were to file a schedule with a description of each asset that caused the failure; (ii) the failure was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect; (iii) we were to dispose of the non-qualifying asset (or otherwise meet the relevant asset test) within six months after the last day of the quarter in which the failure was identified; and (iv) we were to pay a penalty tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 or the highest corporate tax rate multiplied by the net income generated by the non-qualifying asset during the period beginning on the first date of the failure and ending on the date we dispose of the asset (or otherwise cure the asset test failure). It is not possible to predict, however, whether in all circumstances we would be entitled to the benefit of these relief provisions. We intend to maintain adequate records of the value of our assets to ensure compliance with the asset tests and to take such other actions as may be required to comply with those tests.

We believe, but we cannot assure you, that we have been and will continue to be in compliance with the 75% asset test, the 10% voting securities test, the 10% value test, the 5% asset test and the 20% TRS test. If we fail to satisfy any of these tests and the relief provisions, we would lose our REIT status, which would have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Foreclosure Property

The foreclosure property rules permit us (by our election) to foreclose or repossess properties without being disqualified as a REIT as a result of receiving income that does not qualify under the gross income tests; however, a corporate tax is imposed upon such net non-qualifying income from foreclosure property. Detailed rules specify the calculation of the tax, and the after-tax amount would increase the dividends we would be required to distribute to stockholders each year. See [Annual Distribution Requirements](#) below.

Foreclosure property treatment will end on the first day on which we enter into a lease of the property that will give rise to income that is not good REIT income under Section 856(c)(3) of the Code. In addition, foreclosure property treatment will end if any construction takes place on the property (other than completion of a building, or other improvement more than 10% complete before default became imminent). Foreclosure property treatment is available for an initial period of three years and may, in certain circumstances, be extended for an additional three years. Foreclosure property treatment for qualified healthcare property is available for an initial period of two years and may, in certain circumstances, be extended for an additional four years.

Taxable REIT Subsidiaries

We are permitted to own up to 100% of a taxable REIT subsidiary or TRS. A TRS is a corporation subject to tax as a regular C corporation. Generally, a TRS can own assets that cannot be owned by a REIT and can perform otherwise impermissible tenant services (excluding the direct or indirect operation or management of a lodging or healthcare facility) which would otherwise disqualify the REIT's rental income under the REIT income tests. There are certain limits on the ability of a TRS to deduct interest payments made to us. In addition, we will be obligated to pay a 100% penalty tax on some payments that we receive or on certain expenses deducted by the TRS if the economic arrangements between the REIT, the REIT's tenants and the TRS are not comparable to similar arrangements among unrelated parties.

Table of Contents*Annual Distribution Requirements*

In order to be taxed as a REIT, we are required to distribute dividends (other than capital gain dividends) to our stockholders in an amount at least equal to (i) the sum of (A) 90% of our REIT taxable income (computed without regard to the dividends paid deduction and our net capital gain) and (B) 90% of the net income (after tax), if any, from foreclosure property, minus (ii) the sum of certain items of non-cash income. Such distributions must be paid in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if (i) they are (A) declared in October, November or December, (B) payable to stockholders of record on a specified date in any one of these months and (C) actually paid during January of such following year or (ii)(A) they are declared before we timely file our tax return for such year, (B) paid on or before the first regular dividend payment after such declaration, and (C) we elect on our federal income tax return for the prior year to have a specified amount of the subsequent dividend as treated as paid in the prior year. To the extent that we do not distribute all of our net capital gain or distribute at least 90%, but less than 100%, of our REIT taxable income, as adjusted, we will be subject to tax on the undistributed amount at regular capital gains and ordinary corporate tax rates except to the extent of net operating loss or capital loss carryforwards. If any taxes are paid in connection with the Built-in Gains Tax rules, these taxes will be deductible in computing REIT taxable income. Furthermore, if we fail to distribute during each calendar year (or, in the case of distributions with declaration and record dates falling in the last three months of the calendar year, by the end of January following such calendar year) at least the sum of (i) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for such year, (ii) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for such year (other than long-term capital gain we elect to retain and treat as having been distributed to stockholders), and (iii) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we will be subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the amounts actually distributed.

We believe, but we cannot assure you, that we have satisfied the annual distribution requirements for the year of our REIT election and each year thereafter through the year ended December 31, 2007. Although we intend to continue meeting the annual distribution requirements to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes for the year ending December 31, 2008 and subsequent years, it is possible that economic, market, legal, tax or other considerations may limit our ability to meet such requirements. As a result, if we were not able to meet the annual distribution requirement, we would fail to qualify as a REIT. Moreover, if we distribute 100% of our REIT taxable income by taking advantage of the throwback rule described in clause (ii)(C) of the second sentence of the preceding paragraph, satisfying the REIT distribution requirement and generally avoiding corporate level tax, we may incur a 4% nondeductible excise tax.

Failure to Continue to Qualify

If we fail to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification, other than an asset or income test violation of a type for which relief is otherwise available as described above, we would retain our REIT qualification if the failure was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, and if we were to pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure. It is not possible to predict whether in all circumstances we would be entitled to the benefit of this relief provision.

If our election to be taxed as a REIT is revoked or terminated (e.g., due to a failure to meet the REIT qualification tests and no relief provisions were to apply), we would be subject to tax (including any applicable alternative minimum tax) on our taxable income at regular corporate rates (for all open tax years beginning with the year our REIT election is revoked or terminated) except to the extent of net operating loss and capital loss carryforwards. Distributions to stockholders would not be deductible by us, nor would they be required to be made. To the extent of current and accumulated earnings and profits, all distributions to stockholders would be taxable as ordinary income, and, subject to certain limitations in the Code, corporate stockholders may be eligible for the dividends received deduction. In addition, we would be prohibited from re-electing REIT status for the four taxable years following the year during which we ceased to qualify as a REIT, unless certain relief provisions of the Code applied. It is impossible to predict whether we would be entitled to such statutory relief.

Table of Contents**Federal Income Taxation of U.S. Stockholders**

As used herein, the term "U.S. Stockholder" means a holder of our common stock that for U.S. federal income tax purposes is: (i) an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States; (ii) a corporation created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any political subdivision thereof; (iii) an estate the income of which is includible in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes regardless of its source; or (iv) any trust with respect to which (A) a U.S. court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of such trust or (B) an election has been made under applicable Treasury Regulations to retain its pre-August 20, 1996 classification as a U.S. person. If a partnership holds our common stock, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and on the activities of the partnership. Partners of partnerships holding our stock should consult their tax advisors. This section assumes the U.S. Stockholder holds our common stock as a capital asset.

As long as we qualify as a REIT, distributions made to our taxable U.S. Stockholders out of current or accumulated earnings and profits (and not designated as capital gain dividends) generally will be taken into account by such U.S. Stockholders as ordinary income and will not be eligible for the qualified dividends rate generally available to non-corporate holders or for the dividends received deduction generally available to corporations. Distributions that are designated as capital gain dividends will be taxed as a capital gain (to the extent such distributions do not exceed our actual net capital gain for the taxable year) without regard to the period for which the stockholder has held its shares. The tax rates applicable to such capital gains are discussed below. Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits will not be taxable to a stockholder to the extent that they do not exceed the adjusted basis of the stockholder's shares (determined on a share-by-share basis), but rather will reduce the adjusted basis of those shares. To the extent that distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits exceed the adjusted basis of a stockholder's shares, such distributions will be included in income as capital gains. The tax rate applicable to such capital gain will depend on the stockholder's holding period for the shares. In addition, any distribution declared by us in October, November or December of any year and payable to a stockholder of record on a specified date in any such month shall be treated as both paid by us and received by the stockholder on December 31 of such year, provided that the distribution is actually paid by us during January of the following calendar year.

We may elect to treat all or a part of our undistributed net capital gain as if it had been distributed to our stockholders (including for purposes of the 4% excise tax discussed above under "Requirements for Qualification as a REIT Annual Distribution Requirements"). If we make such an election, our stockholders would be required to include in their income as long-term capital gain their proportionate share of our undistributed net capital gain, as designated by us. Each such stockholder would be deemed to have paid its proportionate share of the income tax imposed on us with respect to such undistributed net capital gain, and this amount would be credited or refunded to the stockholder. In addition, the tax basis of the stockholder's shares would be increased by its proportionate share of undistributed net capital gains included in its income, less its proportionate share of the income tax imposed on us with respect to such gains.

Stockholders may not include in their individual income tax returns any of our net operating losses or net capital losses. Instead, such losses would be carried over by us for potential offset against our future income (subject to certain limitations). Taxable distributions from us and gain from the disposition of our common stock will not be treated as passive activity income, and, therefore, stockholders generally will not be able to apply any passive activity losses (such as losses from certain types of limited partnerships in which the stockholder is a limited partner) against such income. In addition, taxable distributions from us generally will be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment interest limitations.

We will notify stockholders after the close of our taxable year as to the portions of the distributions attributable to that year that constitute ordinary income, return of capital and capital gain. To the extent a portion of the distribution is designated as a capital gain dividend, we will notify stockholders as to the portion that is a 15% rate gain distribution and the portion that is an unrecaptured Section 1250 distribution. A 15% rate gain

Table of Contents

distribution is a capital gain distribution to domestic stockholders that are individuals, estates or trusts that is taxable at a maximum rate of 15%. An unrecaptured Section 1250 gain distribution would be taxable to taxable domestic stockholders that are individuals, estates or trusts at a maximum rate of 25%.

Taxation of U.S. Stockholders on the Disposition of Shares of Common Stock

In general, a U.S. Stockholder who is not a dealer in securities must treat any gain or loss realized upon a taxable disposition of our common stock as long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Stockholder has held the shares for more than one year, and otherwise as short-term capital gain or loss. However, a U.S. Stockholder must treat any loss upon a sale or exchange of shares of our common stock held for six months or less as a long-term capital loss to the extent of capital gain dividends and any other actual or deemed distributions from us which the U.S. Stockholder treats as long-term capital gain. All or a portion of any loss that a U.S. Stockholder realizes upon a taxable disposition of our common stock may be disallowed if the U.S. Stockholder purchases other shares of our common stock within 30 days before or after the disposition.

Treatment of Tax-Exempt Stockholders

Tax-exempt organizations, including qualified employee pension and profit sharing trusts and individual retirement accounts (collectively, Exempt Organizations), generally are exempt from federal income taxation. However, they are subject to taxation on their unrelated business taxable income (UBTI). While many investments in real estate generate UBTI, the IRS has issued a published ruling that dividend distributions by a REIT to an exempt employee pension trust do not constitute UBTI, provided that the shares of the REIT are not otherwise used in an unrelated trade or business of the exempt employee pension trust. Based on that ruling, and subject to the exceptions discussed below, amounts distributed by us to Exempt Organizations generally should not constitute UBTI. However, if an Exempt Organization finances its acquisition of our common stock with debt, a portion of its income from us will constitute UBTI pursuant to the debt-financed property rules. Furthermore, social clubs, voluntary employee benefit associations, supplemental unemployment benefit trusts and qualified group legal services plans that are exempt from taxation under paragraphs (7), (9), (17) and (20), respectively, of Section 501(c) of the Code are subject to different UBTI rules, which generally will require them to characterize distributions from us as UBTI. In addition, in certain circumstances, a pension trust that owns more than 10% of our stock is required to treat a percentage of the dividends from us as UBTI.

Special Tax Considerations for Non-U.S. Stockholders

The rules governing U.S. federal income taxation of nonresident alien individuals, foreign corporations, foreign estates and foreign trusts (collectively, Non-U.S. Stockholders) are complex, and the following is no more than a brief summary of those rules. Non-U.S. Stockholders should consult with their own tax advisors to determine the impact of federal, state, local and non-U.S. tax laws with regard to their ownership of our common stock, including any reporting requirements.

For purposes of this discussion, the term Non-U.S. Stockholder does not include any foreign stockholder whose investment in our stock is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States. Such a foreign stockholder, in general, will be subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to its investment in our stock in the same manner as a U.S. Stockholder is taxed (subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals). In addition, a foreign corporation receiving income that is treated as effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business also may be subject to an additional 30% branch profits tax, unless an applicable tax treaty provides a lower rate or an exemption. Certain certification requirements must be satisfied in order for effectively connected income to be exempt from withholding.

Distributions to Non-U.S. Stockholders that are not attributable to gain from sales or exchanges by us of U.S. real property interests and are not designated by us as capital gain dividends (or deemed distributions of

Table of Contents

retained capital gains) will be treated as dividends of ordinary income to the extent that they are made out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. Such distributions ordinarily will be subject to a withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the distribution unless an applicable tax treaty reduces or eliminates that tax. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits will not be taxable to a stockholder to the extent that such distributions do not exceed the adjusted basis of the stockholder's shares (determined on a share-by-share basis), but rather will reduce the adjusted basis of those shares. To the extent that distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits exceed the adjusted basis of a Non-U.S. Stockholder's shares, such distributions will give rise to tax liability if the Non-U.S. Stockholder would otherwise be subject to tax on any gain from the sale or disposition of its shares, as described below.

We expect to withhold U.S. tax at the rate of 30% on the gross amount of any dividends, other than dividends treated as attributable to gain from sales or exchanges of U.S. real property interests and capital gain dividends, paid to a Non-U.S. Stockholder, unless (i) a lower treaty rate applies and the required IRS Form W-8BEN evidencing eligibility for that reduced rate is filed with us or the appropriate withholding agent or (ii) the Non-U.S. Stockholder files an IRS Form W-8ECI or a successor form with us or the appropriate withholding agent properly claiming that the distributions are effectively connected with the Non-U.S. Stockholder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business.

For any year in which we qualify as a REIT, distributions to a Non-U.S. Stockholder that owns more than 5% of our common shares at any time during the one-year period ending on the date of distribution and that are attributable to gain from sales or exchanges by us of U.S. real property interests will be taxed to a Non-U.S. Stockholder under the provisions of the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980 (FIRPTA). Under FIRPTA, distributions attributable to gain from sales of U.S. real property interests are taxed to a Non-U.S. Stockholder as if such gain were effectively connected with a U.S. business. Accordingly, a Non-U.S. Stockholder that owns more than 5% of our shares will be taxed at the normal capital gain rates applicable to a U.S. Stockholder (subject to any applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals). Distributions subject to FIRPTA made to a Non-U.S. Stockholder that owns more than 5% of our shares also may be subject to 30% branch profits tax in the hands of a foreign corporate stockholder not entitled to treaty relief or exemption. Under FIRPTA, we are required to withhold 35% of any distribution to a Non-U.S. Stockholder that owns more than 5% of our shares which is or could be designated as a capital gain dividend attributable to U.S. real property interests. Moreover, if we designate previously made distributions as capital gain dividends attributable to U.S. real property interests, subsequent distributions (up to the amount of such prior distributions) will be treated as capital gain dividends subject to FIRPTA withholding. This amount is creditable against the Non-U.S. Stockholder's FIRPTA tax liability. It should be noted that the 35% withholding tax rate on capital gain dividends paid to Non-U.S. Stockholders owning more than 5% of our shares is higher than the maximum rate on long-term capital gains of non-corporate persons. Capital gain dividends not attributable to gain on the sale or exchange of U.S. real property interests are not subject to U.S. taxation if there is no requirement of withholding.

If a Non-U.S. Stockholder does not own more than 5% of our shares at any time during the one-year period ending on the date of the distribution, the gain will not be considered to be effectively connected with a U.S. business. As such, a Non-U.S. Stockholder who does not own more than 5% of our shares would not be required to file a U.S. federal income tax return by receiving such a distribution. In this case, the distribution will be treated as a REIT dividend to that Non-U.S. Stockholder and taxed as a REIT dividend that is not a capital gain distribution (and subject to possible withholding) as described above. In addition, the branch profits tax will not apply to the distribution.

For so long as our common stock continues to be regularly traded on an established securities market, the sale of such stock by any Non-U.S. Stockholder who is not a Five Percent Non-U.S. Stockholder (as defined below) generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax (unless the Non-U.S. Stockholder is a nonresident alien individual who was present in the United States for more than 182 days during the taxable year of the sale and certain other conditions apply, in which case such gain will be subject to a 30% tax on a gross basis). A

Table of Contents

Five Percent Non-U.S. Stockholder is a Non-U.S. Stockholder who, at some time during the five-year period preceding such sale or disposition, beneficially owned (including under certain attribution rules) more than 5% of the total fair market value of our common stock (as outstanding from time to time).

In general, the sale or other taxable disposition of our common stock by a Five Percent Non-U.S. Stockholder also will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax if we are a domestically controlled REIT. A REIT is a domestically controlled REIT if, at all times during the five-year period preceding the disposition in question, less than 50% in value of its shares is held directly or indirectly by Non-U.S. Stockholders. Although we believe that we currently qualify as a domestically controlled REIT, because our common stock is publicly traded, we cannot assure you that we currently qualify or will qualify as a domestically controlled REIT at any time in the future. If we do not constitute a domestically controlled REIT, a Five Percent Non-U.S. Stockholder will be taxed in the same manner as a U.S. Stockholder with respect to gain on the sale of our common stock (subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals).

Information Reporting Requirements and Backup Withholding Tax

Information reporting to our stockholders and to the IRS will apply to the amount of distributions paid during each calendar year and distributions required to be treated as so paid during a calendar year, and the amount of tax withheld, if any, and to the proceeds of a sale or other disposition of our common stock. Under the backup withholding rules, a stockholder may be subject to backup withholding at the applicable rate (currently 28%) with respect to distributions paid and proceeds from a disposition of our common stock unless such holder (i) is a corporation, non-U.S. person or comes within certain other exempt categories and, when required, demonstrates this fact or (ii) provides a taxpayer identification number, certifies as to no loss of exemption from backup withholding and otherwise complies with the applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. A stockholder who does not provide us with its correct taxpayer identification number also may be subject to penalties imposed by the IRS.

Stockholders should consult their own tax advisors regarding their qualifications for an exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining such an exemption. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Rather, the amount of any backup withholding with respect to a payment to a U.S. Stockholder will be allowed as a credit against the U.S. Stockholder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the U.S. Stockholder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished timely to the IRS.

As a general matter, backup withholding and information reporting will not apply to a payment of the proceeds of a sale of our common stock by or through a foreign office of a foreign broker. Information reporting (but not backup withholding) will apply, however, to a payment of the proceeds of a sale of our common stock by a foreign office of a broker that (i) is a U.S. person, (ii) is a foreign partnership that derives 50% or more of its gross income for certain periods from the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, or more than 50% of whose capital or profit interests are owned during certain periods by U.S. persons, or (iii) is a controlled foreign corporation for U.S. tax purposes, unless the broker has documentary evidence in its records that the holder is a Non-U.S. Stockholder and certain other conditions are satisfied, or the stockholder otherwise establishes an exemption. Payment to or through a U.S. office of a broker of the proceeds of a sale of our common stock is subject to both backup withholding and information reporting unless the stockholder certifies under penalties of perjury that the stockholder is a Non-U.S. Stockholder or otherwise establishes an exemption. A Non-U.S. Stockholder may obtain a refund of any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules by filing the appropriate claim for a refund with the IRS.

Table of Contents

Other Tax Consequences

State and Local Taxes

We and/or our stockholders may be subject to taxation by various states and localities, including those in which we or a stockholder transact business, own property or reside. The state and local tax treatment may differ from the federal income tax treatment described above. Consequently, stockholders should consult their own tax advisers regarding the effect of state and local tax laws, in addition to the federal, foreign and other tax laws, in connection with an investment in our common stock.

Possible Legislative or Other Actions Affecting Tax Consequences

You should recognize that our present federal income tax treatment may be modified by future legislative, judicial and administrative actions or decisions at any time, which may be retroactive in effect, and which could adversely affect the tax consequences of an investment in shares of our common stock. The rules dealing with U.S. federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the IRS and the Treasury Department, resulting in statutory changes as well as promulgation of new, or revisions to existing, regulations and revised interpretations of established concepts. We cannot predict the likelihood of passage of any new tax legislation or other provisions either directly or indirectly affecting us or our stockholders or the value of an investment in our common stock.

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors

RISK FACTORS

This section discusses the most significant factors that affect our business, operations and financial condition. It does not describe all risks and uncertainties applicable to us, our industry or ownership of our securities. If any of the following risks, as well as other risks and uncertainties that are not yet identified or that we currently think are not material, actually occur, we could be materially adversely affected. In that event, the value of our securities could decline.

We have grouped these risk factors into three general categories:

Risks arising from our business;

Risks arising from our capital structure; and

Risks arising from our status as a REIT.

Risks Arising from Our Business

We are dependent on Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living; either of Kindred's or Brookdale Senior Living's inability or unwillingness to satisfy its obligations under its agreements with us could significantly harm us and our ability to service our indebtedness and other obligations and to make distributions to our stockholders as required for us to continue to qualify as a REIT.

We are dependent on Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living in the following ways:

We lease a substantial portion of our properties to Kindred and subsidiaries of Brookdale Senior Living, and therefore Kindred and Brookdale Senior Living accounted for a significant portion of our total revenues in 2007 and 2006, and they are expected to continue to be significant sources of our revenues;

Edgar Filing: VENTAS INC - Form 10-K

Since the Kindred Master Leases and our leases with subsidiaries of Brookdale Senior Living are triple-net leases, we depend on Kindred and those subsidiaries to pay insurance, taxes, utilities and maintenance and repair expenses required in connection with the leased properties; and

Table of Contents

Kindred and certain subsidiaries of Brookdale Senior Living have agreed to indemnify, defend and hold us harmless from and against various claims, litigation and liabilities arising in connection with their respective businesses.

We cannot assure you that Kindred or Brookdale Senior Living will have sufficient assets, income, access to financing and insurance coverage to enable it to satisfy its obligations under its agreements with us. In addition, any failure by Kindred or Brookdale Senior Living to effectively conduct its operations could have a material adverse effect on its business reputation or on its ability to attract and retain patients and residents in its properties. Any inability or unwillingness by Kindred or Brookdale Senior Living to satisfy its obligations under its agreements with us or to effectively conduct its operations could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We may be unable to find another tenant or operator for our properties if we have to replace Kindred, subsidiaries of Brookdale Senior Living or any of our other tenants or operators.

We may have to find another tenant or operator for the properties covered by one or more of the Kindred Master Leases or our leases with subsidiaries of Brookdale Senior Living or any of our other tenants or operators upon the expiration of the terms of the applicable lease or upon a default by Kindred or any of those subsidiaries, tenants or operators. During any period that we are attempting to locate one or more tenants or operators, there could be a decrease or cessation of rental payments on those properties. We cannot assure you that Kindred, subsidiaries of Brookdale Senior Living or any of our other tenants or operators will elect to renew their respective leases with us upon expiration of the terms thereof, nor can we assure you that we will be able to locate another suitable tenant or operator or, if we are successful in locating such a tenant or operator, that the rental payments from that new tenant or operator would not be significantly less than the existing rental payments. Our ability to locate another suitable tenant or operator may be significantly delayed or limited by various state licensing, receivership, CON or other laws, as well as by Medicare and Medicaid change-of-ownership rules. We also may incur substantial additional expenses in connection with any such licensing, receivership or change-of-ownership proceedings. Any such delays, limitations and expenses could materially delay or impact our ability to collect rent, to obtain possession of leased properties or otherwise to exercise remedies for tenant default and could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We may encounter certain risks when implementing our business strategy to pursue investments in, and/or acquisitions or development of, additional seniors housing and/or healthcare-related assets.

We intend to continue to pursue investments in, and/or acquisitions or development of, additional seniors housing and/or healthcare-related assets domestically and internationally, subject to the contractual restrictions contained in our revolving credit facility, our Canadian credit facility and the indentures governing our outstanding senior notes. Investments in and acquisitions of these properties, including the properties acquired in connection with the acquisition of the assets of Sunrise REIT, entail general risks associated with any real estate investment, including risks that the investment will fail to perform in accordance with expectations, that the estimates of the cost of improvements necessary for acquired properties will prove inaccurate or that the tenant or operator will fail to meet performance expectations. In addition, investments in and acquisitions of properties outside the United States would subject us to legal, economic and market risks associated with operating in foreign countries, such as currency and tax risks. Any new development projects that we pursue would also be subject to numerous risks, including risks of construction delays or cost overruns that may increase project costs, new project commencement risks such as receipt of zoning, occupancy and other required governmental approvals and permits and the risk of incurring development costs in connection with projects that are not pursued to completion. In addition, we may borrow to finance any investments in, and/or acquisitions or development of, seniors housing, healthcare-related and/or other properties, which would increase our leverage.

We compete for investment and acquisition opportunities with entities that have substantially greater financial resources than we do. Our ability to compete successfully for these opportunities is affected by many factors, including our cost of obtaining debt and equity capital at rates comparable to or better than our

Table of Contents

competitors. Competition generally may reduce the number of suitable investment and acquisition opportunities available to us and increase the bargaining power of property owners seeking to sell, thereby impeding our investment, acquisition and development activities. See

Business Competition included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Even if we succeed in identifying and competing for investment or acquisition opportunities, these opportunities would subject us to the risk that the value of the properties or businesses we invest in or acquire could decrease substantially after such investment or acquisition, that we might be unable to accurately assess the value of properties or businesses that are not of the type we currently own or that the investment or acquisition would divert management's attention from our existing business, some or all of which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Furthermore, as we continue to implement our business strategy to pursue investments in, and/or acquisitions or development of, additional seniors housing and/or healthcare-related assets or businesses, we intend to increase the number of operators of our properties and, potentially, our business segments. We cannot assure you that we will have the capabilities to successfully monitor and manage a portfolio of properties with a growing number of operators and/or manage such businesses.

Our investments are concentrated in seniors housing and healthcare-related properties, making us more vulnerable economically than if our investments were diversified.

We invest primarily in real estate in particular, seniors housing and healthcare-related properties. Accordingly, we are exposed to the risks inherent in concentrating investments in real estate, and these risks are magnified by the fact that our real estate investments are limited to properties used in the seniors housing or healthcare industries. A downturn in the real estate industry could adversely affect the value of our properties and our ability to sell properties for a price or on terms acceptable to us. A downturn in the seniors housing or healthcare industries could negatively impact our operators' ability to make rental payments to us, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Furthermore, the healthcare industry is highly regulated, and changes in government regulation and reimbursement in the past have had material adverse consequences on the industry in general, which consequences may not have been contemplated by lawmakers and regulators. We cannot assure you that future changes in government regulation of healthcare will not have a material adverse effect on the healthcare industry, including our tenants and operators. Our ability to invest in non-seniors housing or non-healthcare-related properties is restricted by the terms of our revolving credit facility and our Canadian credit facility, so these adverse effects may be more pronounced than if we diversified our investments outside of real estate or outside of seniors housing or healthcare.

Our tenants, managers and operators may be adversely affected by increasing healthcare regulation and enforcement.

We believe that the regulatory environment surrounding the long-term healthcare industry has intensified both in the amount and type of regulations and in the efforts to enforce those regulations. This is particularly true for large for-profit, multi-facility providers like Kindred, Brookdale Senior Living and Sunrise.

The extensive federal, state and local laws and regulations affecting the healthcare industry include, but are not limited to, laws and regulations relating to licensure, conduct of operations, ownership of facilities, addition of facilities and equipment, allowable costs, services, prices for services, quality of care, patient rights, fraudulent or abusive behavior, and financial and other arrangements which may be entered into by healthcare providers. Federal and state governments have intensified enforcement policies, resulting in a significant increase in the number of inspections, citations of regulatory deficiencies and other regulatory sanctions, including terminations from the Medicare and Medicaid programs, bars on Medicare and Medicaid payments for new admissions, civil monetary penalties and even criminal penalties. See Governmental Regulation Healthcare Regulation included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

If our tenants, managers or operators fail to comply with the extensive laws, regulations and other requirements applicable to their businesses and the operation of our properties, they could become ineligible to receive reimbursement from governmental and private third-party payor programs, face bans on admissions of new patients or residents, suffer civil and/or criminal penalties and/or be required to make significant changes to their operations. Our tenants, managers and operators also could be forced to expend considerable resources responding to an investigation or other enforcement action under applicable laws or regulations. In addition, failure of our tenants, managers or operators to comply with the applicable healthcare regulations could adversely affect its results of operations and financial condition and the results of operations of our properties operated or managed by it which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We are unable to predict the future course of federal, state and local regulation or legislation, including the Medicare and Medicaid statutes and regulations. Changes in the regulatory framework could have a material adverse effect on our tenants, managers and operators, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Changes in the reimbursement rates or methods of payment from third-party payors, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs, could have a material adverse effect on certain of our tenants and operators.

Kindred and certain of our other tenants and operators rely on reimbursement from third-party payors, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs, for substantially all of their revenues. There continue to be various federal and state legislative and regulatory proposals to implement cost-containment measures that limit payments to healthcare providers, such as the proposed rule issued by CMS on January 29, 2008 updating LTAC PPS payment rates for the 2009 rate year and the President's proposed 2009 budget that could affect SNF PPS rates. See "Governmental Regulation Healthcare Regulation" included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. In addition, private third-party payors have continued their efforts to control healthcare costs. We cannot assure you that adequate reimbursement levels will be available for services to be provided by Kindred and our other tenants and operators which are currently being reimbursed by Medicare, Medicaid or private payors. Significant limits by governmental and private third-party payors on the scope of services reimbursed and on reimbursement rates and fees could have a material adverse effect on the liquidity, financial condition and results of operations of Kindred and certain of our other tenants and operators, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

The properties managed by Sunrise account for a significant portion of our revenues, and Sunrise is currently experiencing significant legal, accounting and regulatory difficulties.

Sunrise currently manages 79 of our seniors housing communities pursuant to long-term management agreements. These properties represent a substantial portion of our portfolio, based on their original cost, and account for a significant portion of our revenues. According to public disclosures, Sunrise is currently reviewing its strategic alternatives and is experiencing significant legal, accounting and regulatory difficulties. Sunrise announced that it intends to file its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 no later than March 17, 2008, although there can be no assurance it will do so. If Sunrise does not so file, its shares will likely be delisted from the New York Stock Exchange. The diversion of Sunrise management and employee attention away from the operation of our properties to the strategic review process and these other difficulties could adversely affect the performance of our assets, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. We cannot assure you that these issues will not harm Sunrise's business reputation or its ability to attract and retain qualified employees and to enlist and maintain residents in our properties, which also could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. In addition, we cannot predict the impact, if any, that the resolution of these uncertainties will have on our financial condition and results of operations. The failure or inability of Sunrise to satisfy its legal, accounting and regulatory requirements and to pay and perform its obligations could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Table of Contents

We rely on Sunrise to manage a significant number of our seniors housing communities efficiently and effectively; Sunrise's inability to do so could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Although we have various rights as owner under the Sunrise management agreements, we are relying on Sunrise's personnel, good faith, expertise, historical performance, technical resources and information systems, proprietary information and judgment to manage a significant number of our seniors housing communities efficiently and effectively. We are also relying on Sunrise to set resident fees and otherwise operate those properties pursuant to our management agreements and in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Any change in the senior management of Sunrise or any adverse developments in Sunrise's business and affairs, financial strength or ability to operate our properties efficiently and effectively could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. For example, we depend on Sunrise's ability to attract and retain skilled management personnel who are responsible for the day-to-day operations of our seniors housing communities. A shortage of nurses or other trained personnel or general inflationary pressures may require that Sunrise enhance its pay and benefits package to compete effectively for such personnel, the costs of which are included in the operating budget for each property. Sunrise may not be able to offset such added costs by increasing the rates charged to residents. Any increase in these costs or any failure by Sunrise to attract and retain qualified personnel could adversely affect the income we receive from these properties. In addition, any inability or unwillingness on Sunrise's part to satisfy its obligations under the management agreements it has with us could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We are exposed to various operational risks, liabilities and claims with respect to our seniors housing communities managed by Sunrise that may adversely affect our ability to generate revenues and/or increase our costs and could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Historically, we have leased our healthcare properties, other than our MOBs, to healthcare operating companies under triple-net leases, which require the tenants to pay all property-related expenses and to make rental payments to us. As a result of the Sunrise REIT acquisition, however, we are now exposed to various operational risks, liabilities and claims with respect to our Sunrise-managed properties that may adversely affect our ability to generate revenues and/or increase our costs, thereby reducing our profitability. These risks include fluctuations in occupancy levels, the inability to achieve economic resident fees (including anticipated increases in those fees), rent control regulations, increases in costs of materials, energy, labor and services, national and regional economic conditions, the imposition of new or increased taxes, capital expenditure requirements, professional and general liability claims and the availability and costs of professional and general liability insurance. Any one or a combination of these factors could result in operating deficiencies at our Sunrise-managed properties, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We have only limited rights to terminate our management agreements with Sunrise, and we may be unable to replace Sunrise if our management agreements are terminated or not renewed.

We and Sunrise are parties to long-term management agreements pursuant to which Sunrise currently provides comprehensive property management services with respect to 79 of our seniors housing communities. Each management agreement has a term of 30 years and may only be terminated by us upon the occurrence of an event of default by Sunrise in the performance of a material covenant or term thereof (including the revocation of any licenses or certificates necessary for operation), subject in each case to Sunrise's rights to cure deficiencies, or upon the occurrence of certain insolvency events relating to Sunrise. We can also terminate the management agreement if a pool of properties fails to achieve a targeted net operating income level over a twelve-month period, other than as a result of a default by Sunrise. Consequently, in order to terminate Sunrise's management agreement on a single underperforming property, we may be obligated to sell the property. If we were to exercise this remedy with respect to a large number of our seniors housing communities managed by Sunrise, the dispositions could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Table of Contents

In the event that our management agreements with Sunrise are terminated for any reason or are not renewed upon expiration of their terms, we will have to find another manager for the properties covered by those agreements. We cannot assure you that we will be able to locate another suitable manager or, if we are successful in locating such a manager, that such manager will manage the properties as effectively as Sunrise. Any such inability or lengthy delay in replacing Sunrise as manager following termination or non-renewal of our management agreements could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We may not be able to realize the intended benefits of the Sunrise REIT acquisition, which could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

The Sunrise REIT acquisition poses a number of risks, including the risks that:

the acquired properties may not perform as well as we anticipated due to various factors, such as disruptions caused by the integration of operations with us and changes in economic conditions;

because we do not manage the day-to-day operations of the acquired properties, we rely on Sunrise to provide accurate property-level financial results for our properties in a timely manner; and

we may experience greater than expected costs and/or may not realize the expected revenues, cost savings or development opportunities from the transaction within the expected timeframe, if at all.

If the liabilities we have assumed in the Sunrise REIT acquisition are greater than expected, or if there are unknown liabilities relating to the Sunrise REIT properties, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

We acquired our ownership interests in many of the Sunrise REIT properties through the acquisition of the entities that own these properties. These entities may be subject to liabilities unknown to us that, if asserted, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us, such as:

liabilities relating to the clean-up or remediation of undisclosed environmental conditions;

unasserted claims of vendors or other persons dealing with such entities;

liabilities, claims and litigation, whether or not incurred in the ordinary course of business, relating to periods prior to the Sunrise REIT acquisition;

claims for indemnification by general partners, directors, officers and others indemnified by such entities; and

liabilities for taxes relating to periods prior to the Sunrise REIT acquisition.

As a result, we cannot assure you that the Sunrise REIT acquisition will be successful or will not, in fact, harm our business. Among other things, if the liabilities we have assumed are greater than expected, or if there are obligations relating to the Sunrise REIT properties of which we were not aware at the time we completed the Sunrise REIT acquisition, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

Our current and future investments in joint ventures could be adversely affected by our lack of sole decision-making authority, our reliance on our joint venture partners' financial condition, any disputes that may arise between us and our joint venture partners and our exposure to potential losses from the actions of our joint venture partners.

Edgar Filing: VENTAS INC - Form 10-K

Through the Sunrise REIT acquisition and our resulting relationship with Sunrise pursuant to a strategic alliance agreement, we have acquired a 75% to 85% ownership interest in 61 seniors housing communities, with the minority interests in those communities being owned by affiliates of Sunrise. In addition, as of December 31, 2007, we owned seven MOBs through joint ventures with partners who typically provide management and leasing

Table of Contents

services for the properties. These joint ventures involve risks not present with respect to our wholly owned properties, including the following:

We may share decision-making authority with our joint venture partners regarding major decisions affecting the ownership or operation of the joint venture and any property held jointly thereby, such as the sale or financing of any such property or the making of additional capital contributions for the benefit of any such property, which may prevent us from taking actions that are opposed by our joint venture partners;

Prior consent of our joint venture partners may be required for a sale or transfer to a third party of our interests in the joint venture, which restricts our ability to dispose of our interests in the joint venture;

Our joint venture partners might become bankrupt or fail to fund their share of required capital contributions, which may delay construction or development of a property or increase our financial commitment to the joint venture;

Our joint venture partners may have business interests or goals with respect to the property that conflict with our business interests and goals, which could increase the likelihood of disputes regarding the ownership, management or disposition of the property;

Disputes may develop with our joint venture partners over decisions affecting the property or the joint venture, which may result in litigation or arbitration that would increase our expenses and distract our officers and/or directors from focusing their time and effort on our business and possibly disrupt the day-to-day operations of the property, such as delaying the implementation of important decisions until the conflict or dispute is resolved; and

We may suffer losses as a result of the actions of our joint venture partners with respect to our joint venture investments.
We may be adversely affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

We currently own twelve seniors housing communities in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and British Columbia. As a result, we are subject to fluctuations in U.S. and Canadian exchange rates which may, from time to time, have an impact on our financial condition and results of operations. As we increase our international presence through investments in, and/or acquisitions or development of, seniors housing and/or healthcare-related assets outside the United States, we may transact additional business in currencies other than U.S. or Canadian dollars. Although we may decide to pursue hedging alternatives (including borrowing in local currencies) to protect against foreign currency fluctuations, we cannot assure you that any such fluctuations will not have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our revenues from the seniors housing communities managed by Sunrise are dependent on private pay sources; Events which adversely affect the ability of seniors to afford our daily resident fees could cause our occupancy rates, resident fee revenues and results of operations to decline.

Assisted and independent living services currently are not generally reimbursable under government reimbursement programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid. Accordingly, substantially all of the resident fee revenues generated by our Sunrise-managed properties are derived from private pay sources consisting of income or assets of residents or their family members. In general, because of the expense associated with building new properties and the staffing and other costs of providing services at these properties, only seniors with income or assets meeting or exceeding the comparable median in the regions where our properties are located typically can afford to pay the daily resident and care fees. Events such as economic downturns, changes in the housing market or changes in demographics could adversely affect the ability of seniors to afford these fees. If Sunrise is unable to attract and retain seniors with sufficient income, assets or other resources required to pay the fees associated with assisted and independent living services, our occupancy rates, resident fee revenues and results of operations could decline, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Table of Contents

Overbuilding in markets in which our seniors housing communities are located could adversely affect our future occupancy rates, operating margins and profitability.

Barriers to entry in the assisted living industry are not substantial. Consequently, the development of new seniors housing communities could outpace demand. If the development of new seniors housing communities outpaces demand for those communities in the markets in which our properties are located, those markets may become saturated. Overbuilding in our markets, therefore, could cause us to experience decreased occupancy, reduced operating margins and lower profitability.

Termination of resident lease agreements could adversely affect our revenues and earnings.

Applicable regulations governing assisted living communities generally require written resident lease agreements with each resident. Most of these regulations also require that each resident have the right to terminate the resident lease agreement for any reason on reasonable notice. Consistent with these regulations, the resident lease agreements signed by Sunrise with respect to our properties managed by it generally allow residents to terminate their lease agreements on 30 days' notice. Thus, Sunrise cannot contract with residents to stay for longer periods of time, unlike typical apartment leasing arrangements with terms of up to one year or longer. In addition, the resident turnover rate in our seniors housing communities may be difficult to predict. If a large number of resident lease agreements terminate at or around the same time, and if our units remained unoccupied, then our revenues and earnings could be adversely affected, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Significant legal actions could subject our tenants, managers and operators to increased operating costs and substantial uninsured liabilities, which could materially adversely affect their liquidity, financial condition and results of operation.

Although claims and costs of professional liability insurance seem to be growing at a slower pace, our tenants, managers and operators have experienced substantial increases in both the number and size of professional liability claims in recent years. In addition to large compensatory claims, plaintiffs' attorneys continue to seek significant punitive damages and attorneys' fees.

Due to historically high frequency and severity of professional liability claims against healthcare providers, the availability of professional liability insurance has been restricted and the premiums on such insurance coverage remain very high. As a result, the insurance coverage of our tenants, managers and operators might not cover all claims against them or continue to be available to them at a reasonable cost. If our tenants, managers and operators are unable to maintain adequate insurance coverage or are required to pay punitive damages, they may be exposed to substantial liabilities.

Kindred insures its professional liability risks in part through a wholly owned, limited purpose insurance company. The limited purpose insurance company insures initial losses up to specified coverage levels per occurrence with no aggregate coverage limit. Coverage for losses in excess of those per occurrence levels is maintained through unaffiliated commercial insurance carriers up to an aggregate limit. The limited purpose insurance company then insures all claims in excess of the aggregate limit for the unaffiliated commercial insurance carriers. Kindred maintains general liability insurance and professional malpractice liability insurance in amounts and with deductibles which Kindred management has indicated that it believes are sufficient for its operations.

Our tenants, managers and operators, including without limitation, Kindred, that insure any part of their general and professional liability risks through their own captive limited purpose entities generally estimate the future cost of general and professional liability through actuarial studies which rely primarily on historical data. However, due to the increase in the number and severity of professional claims against healthcare providers, these actuarial studies may underestimate the future cost of claims, and we cannot assure you that these tenants', managers' and operators' reserves for future claims will be adequate to cover the actual cost of those claims. If

Table of Contents

the actual cost of claims is significantly higher than the tenants', managers and operators' reserves, it could have a material adverse effect on the results of operations at our properties operated by that tenant, manager or operator, the tenants', managers' and operators' liquidity, financial condition and results of operation and on their ability to make payments to us or on our behalf, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our operators may be sued under a federal whistleblower statute.

Our operators who engage in business with the federal government may be sued under a federal whistleblower statute designed to combat fraud and abuse in the healthcare industry. See *Governmental Regulation Healthcare Regulation* included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. These lawsuits can involve significant monetary damages and award bounties to private plaintiffs who successfully bring these suits. If any of these lawsuits were to be brought against our operators, such suits combined with increased operating costs and substantial uninsured liabilities could have a material adverse effect on the operators' liquidity, financial condition and results of operation and on their ability to make rental payments to us, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

If any of our properties are found to be contaminated, or if we become involved in any environmental disputes, we could incur substantial liabilities and costs.

Under federal and state environmental laws and regulations, a current or former owner of real property may be liable for costs related to the investigation, removal and remediation of hazardous or toxic substances or petroleum that are released from or are present at or under, or that are disposed of in connection with such property. Owners of real property may also face other environmental liabilities, including government fines and penalties imposed by regulatory authorities and damages for injuries to persons, property or natural resources. Environmental laws and regulations often impose liability without regard to whether the owner was aware of, or was responsible for, the presence, release or disposal of hazardous or toxic substances or petroleum. In certain circumstances, environmental liability may result from the activities of a current or former operator of the property. Although we are generally indemnified by the current operators of our properties for contamination caused by them, these indemnities may not adequately cover all environmental costs. See *Governmental Regulation Environmental Regulation* included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

We have assumed substantially all of Provident's liabilities, including contingent liabilities; If these liabilities are greater than expected, or if there are unknown Provident obligations, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

As a result of our acquisition of Provident in 2005, we have assumed substantially all of Provident's liabilities, including contingent liabilities to which Provident succeeded when it acquired the ownership interests in the properties that are currently leased to Brookdale and Alterra. We may learn additional information about Provident's business and liabilities that adversely affects us, such as:

liabilities for clean-up or remediation of undisclosed environmental conditions;

unasserted claims of vendors or other persons dealing with Provident or the former property owners;

liabilities, whether or not incurred in the ordinary course of business, relating to periods prior to the Provident acquisition, including periods prior to Provident's acquisition of the Brookdale and Alterra properties;

claims for indemnification by general partners, directors, officers and others indemnified by Provident or the former property owners; and

liabilities for taxes relating to periods prior to the Provident acquisition, including taxes associated with the acquisition or prior ownership of the Brookdale and Alterra properties.

As a result, we cannot assure you that the Provident acquisition will be successful or will not, in fact, harm our business. Among other things, if Provident's liabilities are greater than expected, or if there are obligations of

Table of Contents

Provident of which we were not aware at the time we completed the acquisition, or if the Provident acquisition fails to qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code, it could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Risks Arising from Our Capital Structure

We may become more leveraged.

As of December 31, 2007, we had approximately \$3.4 billion of indebtedness. Our revolving credit facility, our Canadian credit facility and the indentures governing our outstanding senior notes permit us to incur substantial additional debt, and we may borrow additional funds, which may include secured borrowings. A high level of indebtedness would require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to the payment of debt service, thereby reducing the funds available to implement our business strategy and to make distributions to stockholders. A high level of indebtedness could also have the following consequences:

potential limits on our ability to adjust rapidly to changing market conditions and vulnerability in the event of a downturn in general economic conditions or in the real estate and/or healthcare industries;

potential impairment of our ability to obtain additional financing for our business strategy; and

potential downgrade in the rating of our debt securities by one or more rating agencies, which could have the effect of, among other things, increasing our cost of borrowing.

We may be unable to raise additional capital necessary to continue to implement our business plan and to meet our debt payments.

In order to continue to implement our business plan and to meet our debt payments, we may need to raise additional capital. The amount of additional indebtedness we may incur is limited by the terms of our revolving credit facility, our Canadian credit facility and the indentures governing our outstanding senior notes. In addition, adverse economic conditions may impact the availability of additional funds or could cause the terms on which we are able to borrow additional funds to become unfavorable. In those circumstances, we may be required to raise additional equity in the capital markets or liquidate one or more investments in properties at times that may not permit us to realize the maximum return on those investments, which could result in adverse tax consequences to us. Moreover, certain healthcare regulations may constrain our ability to sell assets. We cannot assure you that we will be able to raise the necessary capital to continue to implement our business plan or to meet our debt service obligations, and the failure to do so could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We have now, and may have in the future, exposure to floating interest rates, which could have the effect of reducing our profitability.

We receive a significant portion of our revenue by leasing our assets under long-term triple-net leases in which the rental rate is generally fixed with annual rent escalations, subject to certain limitations. Certain of our debt obligations are floating rate obligations with interest rate and related payments that vary with the movement of LIBOR, Bankers' Acceptance or other indexes. The generally fixed rate nature of our revenues and the variable rate nature of certain of our obligations create interest rate risk and can have the effect of reducing our profitability or making our lease and other revenue insufficient to meet our obligations. The amount of floating rate debt versus fixed rate debt we may incur is not limited.

Table of Contents

Risks Arising from Our Status as a REIT

Loss of our status as a REIT would have significant adverse consequences to us and the value of our common stock.

If we lose our status as a REIT, we will face serious tax consequences that will substantially reduce the funds available for satisfying our obligations and for distribution to our stockholders for each of the years involved because:

we would not be allowed a deduction for distributions to stockholders in computing our taxable income and would be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates;

we also could be subject to the federal alternative minimum tax and possibly increased state and local taxes; and

unless we are entitled to relief under statutory provisions, we could not elect to be subject to tax as a REIT for four taxable years following the year during which we were disqualified.

In addition, in such event we would no longer be required to pay dividends to maintain REIT status.

As a result of all these factors, our failure to qualify as a REIT also could impair our ability to implement our business strategy and would adversely affect the value of our common stock.

Qualification as a REIT involves the application of highly technical and complex Code provisions for which there are only limited judicial and administrative interpretations. The determination of various factual matters and circumstances not entirely within our control may affect our ability to remain qualified as a REIT. In addition, new legislation, regulations, administrative interpretations or court decisions may adversely affect our investors or our ability to remain qualified as a REIT for tax purposes. Although we believe that we qualify as a REIT, we cannot assure you that we will continue to qualify or remain qualified as a REIT for tax purposes.

See *Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations*, *Federal Income Taxation of Ventas* and *Requirements for Qualification as a REIT* included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The 90% distribution requirement will decrease our liquidity and may limit our ability to engage in otherwise beneficial transactions.

To comply with the 90% distribution requirement applicable to REITs and to avoid the nondeductible excise tax, we must make distributions to our stockholders. See *Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations*, *Requirements for Qualification as a REIT*, *Annual Distribution Requirements* included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The indentures governing our outstanding senior notes permit us to make annual distributions to our stockholders in an amount equal to the minimum amount necessary to maintain our REIT status so long as the ratio of our Debt to Adjusted Total Assets (as each term is defined in the indentures) does not exceed 60% and to make additional distributions if we pass certain other financial tests. However, distributions may limit our ability to rely upon rental payments from our properties or subsequently acquired properties to finance investments, acquisitions or new developments.

Although we anticipate that we generally will have sufficient cash or liquid assets to enable us to satisfy the REIT distribution requirement, it is possible that, from time to time, we may not have sufficient cash or other liquid assets to meet the 90% distribution requirement. This may be due to the timing differences between the actual receipt of income and actual payment of deductible expenses, on the one hand, and the inclusion of that income and deduction of those expenses in arriving at our taxable income, on the other hand. In addition, non-deductible expenses such as principal amortization or repayments or capital expenditures in excess of non-cash deductions also may cause us to fail to have sufficient cash or liquid assets to enable us to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement.

Table of Contents

In the event that timing differences occur or we decide to retain cash or to distribute such greater amount as may be necessary to avoid income and excise taxation, we may borrow funds, issue additional equity securities (although we cannot assure you that we will be able to do so), pay taxable stock dividends, if possible, distribute other property or securities or engage in a transaction intended to enable us to meet the REIT distribution requirements. This may require us to raise additional capital to meet our obligations; however, see **Risks Arising from Our Capital Structure**. We may be unable to raise additional capital necessary to continue to implement our business plan and to meet our debt payments. The terms of our revolving credit facility, our Canadian credit facility and the indentures governing our outstanding senior notes restrict our ability to engage in some of these transactions.

The structure utilized to implement the Sunrise REIT acquisition may jeopardize our REIT status.

As a REIT, we may not own and operate a healthcare facility directly, and a taxable REIT subsidiary may not directly or indirectly manage or operate a healthcare facility. We believe (and have been advised by counsel) that a taxable REIT subsidiary may own a healthcare facility if such facility is managed by an independent eligible contractor. In order to ensure that the Sunrise REIT acquisition does not jeopardize our REIT status, the Sunrise REIT properties were acquired through taxable REIT subsidiaries and are being managed by Sunrise pursuant to long-term management agreements. We believe that the use of such a structure does not compromise our REIT status. However, if it is determined that this structure jeopardizes our REIT status, such determination could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We may still be subject to corporate level taxes.

Following our REIT election and due to the acquisition of Provident, we are considered to be a former C corporation for income tax purposes. Therefore, we remain potentially subject to corporate level taxes for any additional Kindred asset dispositions occurring before December 31, 2008. Also, as a consequence of the Provident acquisition, we remain potentially subject to corporate level taxes if we dispose of any of the Brookdale properties before November 2014.

ITEM 1B. *Unresolved Staff Comments*

None.

ITEM 2. *Properties* **Seniors Housing and Healthcare-Related Properties**

As of December 31, 2007, we owned 519 assets: 253 seniors housing communities, 197 skilled nursing facilities, 42 hospitals and 27 medical office and other properties in 43 states and two Canadian provinces. We believe that the asset type and geographic diversity of the properties makes our portfolio less susceptible to adverse changes in state reimbursement and regulation and regional economic downturns.

At December 31, 2007, we had mortgage loan obligations outstanding in the aggregate principal amount of \$1.6 billion, secured by certain of our properties.

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth select information regarding the properties we owned as of December 31, 2007 for each geographic location in which we own property:

Geographic Location	As of December 31, 2007							Other Properties Number of Properties
	Seniors Housing Communities		Skilled Nursing Facilities		Hospitals		MOBs Number of Properties	
	Number of Properties	Units	Number of Facilities	Licensed Beds	Number of Hospitals	Licensed Beds		
Alabama	2	220	2	329				
Arizona	8	663	4	623	2	109		
Arkansas	6	420						
California	27	3,324	9	1,159	5	417		
Colorado	6	459	4	464	1	68	3	
Connecticut	4	458	6	736				
Florida	16	1,625			6	511	6	
Georgia	10	830	4	549				
Idaho	1	70	7	696				
Illinois	17	2,637			4	431		
Indiana	9	1,002	13	1,968	1	59		
Kansas	3	354						
Kentucky			27	3,081	3	760	1	
Louisiana	1	58			1	168		
Maine			8	658				
Maryland	2	149	3	462				
Massachusetts	10	1,259	26	2,811	2	109		
Michigan	10	920						
Minnesota	9	634	1	140				
Missouri	1	173			2	227	1	
Montana			2	331				
Nebraska	1	136						
Nevada	1	152	2	180	1	52		
New Hampshire			3	512				
New Jersey	9	724	1	153			1	
New Mexico	2	344			1	61		
New York	14	1,307						
North Carolina	6	437	16	1,836	1	124		
Ohio	18	1,287	14	1,863	1	29	2	
Oklahoma					1	59		
Oregon			2	254				
Pennsylvania	25	1,686	6	797	2	115	2	
Rhode Island			2	201				
South Carolina	2	117						
Tennessee	5	343	3	397	1	49		
Texas	2	215			7	496	3	8
Utah	1	79	5	620				
Vermont			1	160				
Virginia	5	401	4	629				
Washington	3	320	7	692				
West Virginia	1	64						
Wisconsin	4	122	11	1,825				
Wyoming			4	451				
Total U.S.	241	22,989	197	24,577	42	3,844	19	8
British Columbia	3	276						
Ontario	9	848						

Edgar Filing: VENTAS INC - Form 10-K

Total Canada	12	1,124						
Total	253	24,113	197	24,577	42	3,844	19	8

Table of Contents**Other Real Estate Investments**

As of December 31, 2007, our other real estate investments consisted of three first mortgage loans, secured by four properties, in the outstanding aggregate principal amount of \$20.1 million.

Each first mortgage loan accrues interest at a rate of 9% per annum and provides for monthly amortization of principal with a balloon payment maturity date ranging between April and July 2010. One of these loans is guaranteed by a third party, unrelated to the borrower, and its two principals. The remaining two loans are guaranteed by an affiliate of the borrower and its two principals.

See Note 8 Loans Receivable of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Corporate Offices

We lease our corporate offices in Louisville, Kentucky and Chicago, Illinois.

ITEM 3. Legal Proceedings

The information contained in Note 15 Litigation of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 3. Except as set forth therein, we are not a party to, nor is any of our property the subject of, any material pending legal proceedings.

ITEM 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

Not applicable.

PART II**ITEM 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**
Market Information

Our common stock, par value \$0.25 per share, is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange (the NYSE) under the symbol VTR. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low sales prices of our common stock as reported on the NYSE and the dividends declared per share.

	Sales Price of Common Stock		Dividends Declared
	High	Low	
2007			
First Quarter	\$ 47.97	\$ 40.91	\$ 0.475
Second Quarter	45.14	34.90	0.475
Third Quarter	43.19	31.38	0.475
Fourth Quarter	47.49	39.37	0.475
2006			
First Quarter	\$ 34.66	\$ 29.54	\$ 0.395
Second Quarter	34.48	30.66	0.395
Third Quarter	40.07	33.51	0.395
Fourth Quarter	42.40	36.50	0.395

Table of Contents

As of February 15, 2008, there were 138,311,810 shares of our common stock outstanding held by approximately 2,979 stockholders of record.

Dividends and Distributions

We pay regular quarterly dividends to holders of our common stock. On February 13, 2008, our Board of Directors declared the first quarterly installment of our 2008 dividend in the amount of \$0.5125 per share, payable on March 28, 2008 to stockholders of record on March 6, 2008. We expect to distribute 100% or more of our taxable net income to our stockholders for 2008.

Our Board of Directors normally makes decisions regarding the frequency and amount of our dividends on a quarterly basis. Because the Board considers a number of factors when making these decisions, we cannot assure you that we will maintain the policy stated above. Please see **Cautionary Statements** and the risk factors included in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for a description of other factors that may affect our distribution policy.

Our stockholders may reinvest all or a portion of any cash distribution on their shares of our common stock by participating in our **Distribution Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan**, subject to the terms of the plan. See **Note 16 Capital Stock** of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Director and Employee Stock Sales

Certain of our directors, executive officers and other employees have adopted and may, from time to time in the future, adopt non-discretionary, written trading plans that comply with Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act, or otherwise monetize their equity-based compensation.

Stock Repurchases

The table below summarizes repurchases of our common stock made during the quarter ended December 31, 2007:

	Number of Shares Repurchased (1)	Average Price Per Share
October 1 through October 31		
November 1 through November 30		
December 1 through December 31	14,669	\$ 43.89

(1) Repurchases represent shares withheld to pay taxes on the vesting of restricted stock granted to employees.

Table of Contents**Stock Performance Graph**

The following performance graph compares the cumulative total return (including dividends) to the holders of our common stock from December 31, 2002 through December 31, 2007, with the cumulative total returns of the NYSE Composite Index, the FTSE NAREIT Composite REIT Index (the All REIT Index), the FTSE NAREIT Healthcare Equity REIT Index (the Healthcare REIT Index) and the Russell 1000 Index over the same period. The comparison assumes \$100 was invested on December 31, 2002 in our common stock and in each of the foregoing indices and assumes reinvestment of dividends, as applicable. We have included the NYSE Composite Index in the performance graph because our common stock is listed on the NYSE. We have included the other indices because we believe that they are either most representative of the industry in which we compete, or otherwise provide a fair basis for comparison with Ventas, and are therefore particularly relevant to an assessment of our performance. The figures in the table below are rounded to the nearest dollar.

	12/31/2002	12/31/2003	12/31/2004	12/31/2005	12/31/2006	12/31/2007
Ventas	\$ 100	\$ 206	\$ 270	\$ 331	\$ 457	\$ 512
NYSE Composite Index	\$ 100	\$ 132	\$ 151	\$ 166	\$ 200	\$ 217
All REIT Index	\$ 100	\$ 138	\$ 181	\$ 196	\$ 262	\$ 215
Healthcare REIT Index	\$ 100	\$ 154	\$ 186	\$ 189	\$ 273	\$ 279
Russell 1000 Index	\$ 100	\$ 130	\$ 145	\$ 154	\$ 178	\$ 188

Table of Contents**ITEM 6. Selected Financial Data**

You should read the following selected financial data in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and our Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, as acquisitions, divestitures, changes in accounting policies and other items impact the comparability of the financial data.

	As of and For the Years Ended December 31,				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Operating Data					
Rental income	\$ 483,985	\$ 405,952	\$ 310,915	\$ 218,733	\$ 177,090
Resident fees and services	282,226				
Interest expense	204,218	136,544	100,431	61,979	57,498
Property-level operating expenses	198,125	3,171	2,576	1,337	
General, administrative and professional fees	36,425	26,136	25,075	18,124	16,432
Income from continuing operations applicable to common shares	141,496	125,964	119,122	93,537	89,935
Discontinued operations	135,623	5,466	11,461	27,363	72,818
Net income applicable to common shares	277,119	131,430	130,583	120,900	162,753
Per Share Data					
Income from continuing operations applicable to common shares, basic	\$ 1.15	\$ 1.21	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.12	\$ 1.13
Net income applicable to common shares, basic	\$ 2.26	\$ 1.26	\$ 1.37	\$ 1.45	\$ 2.05
Income from continuing operations applicable to common shares, diluted	\$ 1.15	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.24	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.12
Net income applicable to common shares, diluted	\$ 2.25	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.43	\$ 2.03
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.30	\$ 1.07
Other Data					
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 399,810	\$ 238,867	\$ 223,764	\$ 149,958	\$ 137,366
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(1,173,376)	(481,974)	(615,041)	(298,695)	159,701
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	805,649	242,712	389,553	69,998	(217,418)
FFO applicable to common shares (1)	377,656	249,668	213,203	150,322	152,631
Balance Sheet Data					
Real estate investments, at cost	\$ 6,290,365	\$ 3,707,837	\$ 3,027,896	\$ 1,512,211	\$ 1,090,181
Cash and cash equivalents	28,334	1,246	1,641	3,365	82,104
Total assets	5,716,628	3,253,800	2,639,118	1,126,935	812,850
Senior notes payable and other debt	3,360,499	2,329,053	1,802,564	843,178	640,562

- (1) We consider funds from operations (FFO) an appropriate measure of performance of an equity REIT, and we use the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (NAREIT) definition of FFO. NAREIT defines FFO as net income (computed in accordance with GAAP), excluding gains (or losses) from sales of real estate property, plus real estate depreciation and amortization, and after adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures. FFO presented herein is not necessarily comparable to FFO presented by other real estate companies due to the fact that not all real estate companies use the same definition. FFO

Table of Contents

should not be considered as an alternative to net income (determined in accordance with GAAP) as an indicator of our financial performance or as an alternative to cash flow from operating activities (determined in accordance with GAAP) as a measure of our liquidity, nor is FFO indicative of sufficient cash flow to fund all of our needs. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Results of Operations Funds from Operations included in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

ITEM 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion and analysis provides information which management believes is relevant to an assessment and understanding of the consolidated results of operations and financial condition of Ventas, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, unless otherwise indicated or except where the context otherwise requires, we, us or our). You should read this discussion in conjunction with our Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. This Management's Discussion and Analysis will help you understand:

Key transactions that we completed in 2007;

Our critical accounting policies and estimates;

Our results of operations for the last three years;

Our liquidity and capital resources; and

Our funds from operations.

Key Transactions in 2007

During 2007, we completed the following key transactions:

We completed the acquisition of all of the assets of Sunrise Senior Living Real Estate Investment Trust (Sunrise REIT) for aggregate consideration of approximately \$2.0 billion. As a result, we acquired a 100% interest in 18 seniors housing communities and a 75% to 85% interest in 59 additional seniors housing communities located in 19 U.S. states and two Canadian provinces. In addition, we assumed all rights and obligations of Sunrise REIT under two fixed price acquisition agreements with Sunrise Senior Living, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, Sunrise) and subsequently acquired an 80% interest in two additional seniors housing communities located in Staten Island, New York and Vaughan, Ontario.

We issued and sold 26,910,000 shares of our common stock in an underwritten public offering pursuant to our shelf registration statement and received \$1.05 billion in net proceeds from the sale, which we used to redeem and repay the majority of our acquisition facility drawn to acquire the Sunrise REIT assets.

We purchased eight medical office buildings (MOBs) during 2007 for approximately \$150.4 million, seven of which are owned through joint ventures with three different partners that provide management and leasing services for the properties. We now have MOB investments totaling over one million square feet.

Edgar Filing: VENTAS INC - Form 10-K

Kindred Healthcare, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, Kindred) renewed, through April 30, 2013, its leases covering all 64 healthcare assets owned by us whose base term would have expired on April 30, 2008.

We sold 21 skilled nursing facilities and one hospital to Kindred for \$175.0 million in net cash proceeds.

We entered into a Cdn \$90.0 million unsecured revolving credit facility (the Canadian credit facility) that bears interest at a fluctuating Bankers Acceptance rate per annum plus an applicable percentage based on our consolidated leverage, which was 0.75% as of December 31, 2007. In January 2008, we increased the borrowing capacity under this facility to Cdn \$105.0 million.

Table of Contents

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), which requires us to make estimates and judgments about future events that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements and the related disclosures. We base estimates on our experience and on various other assumptions believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. These judgments affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. If our judgment or interpretation of the facts and circumstances relating to various transactions or other matters had been different, it is possible that different accounting would have been applied, resulting in a different presentation of our financial statements. From time to time, we re-evaluate our estimates and assumptions. In the event estimates or assumptions prove to be different from actual results, adjustments are made in subsequent periods to reflect more current estimates and assumptions about matters that are inherently uncertain. We believe that the following critical accounting policies, among others, affect our more significant estimates and judgments used in the preparation of our financial statements. For more information regarding our critical accounting policies, please see Note 2 Accounting Policies of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Principles of Consolidation

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K include our accounts and the accounts of our wholly owned subsidiaries and joint venture entities over which we exercise control. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation, and net earnings are reduced by the portion of net earnings applicable to minority interests.

Long-Lived Assets and Intangibles

Investments in real estate assets are recorded at cost. We account for acquisitions using the purchase method. The cost of the properties acquired is allocated among tangible and recognized intangible assets and liabilities based upon estimated fair values in accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 141, Business Combinations. We estimate fair values of the components of assets and liabilities acquired as of the acquisition date. Recognized intangibles include the value of acquired lease contracts, management agreements and related customer relationships.

Our method for allocating the purchase price paid to acquire investments in real estate requires us to make subjective assessments for determining fair value of the assets and liabilities acquired or assumed. This includes determining the value of the buildings and improvements, land and improvements, ground leases, tenant improvements, in-place tenant leases, above and/or below market leases, other intangibles embedded in contracts and any debt assumed. Each of these estimates requires significant judgment and some of the estimates involve complex calculations. These allocation assessments have a direct impact on our results of operations, as amounts allocated to some assets and liabilities have different depreciation or amortization lives. Additionally, the amortization of value assigned to above and/or below market leases is recorded as a component of revenue, as compared to the amortization of in-place leases and other intangibles, which is included in depreciation and amortization in our Consolidated Statements of Income included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

We estimate the fair value of buildings on an as-if-vacant basis, and depreciate the building value over the estimated remaining life of the building. We determine the allocated value of other fixed assets based upon the replacement cost and depreciate such value over their estimated remaining useful lives. We determine the value of land either based on real estate tax assessed values in relation to the total value of the asset, internal analyses of recently acquired and existing comparable properties within our portfolio. The fair value of in-place leases, if any, reflects (i) above and below market leases, if any, determined by discounting the difference between the estimated current market rent and the in-place rentals, the resulting intangible asset or liability of which is

Table of Contents

amortized to revenue over the remaining life of the associated lease plus any fixed rate renewal periods, if applicable, (ii) the estimated value of the cost to obtain tenants, including tenant allowances, tenant improvements and leasing commissions, which is amortized over the remaining life of the associated lease, and (iii) an estimated value of the absorption period to reflect the value of the rents and recovery costs foregone during a reasonable lease-up period, as if the acquired space was vacant, which is amortized over the remaining life of the associated lease. We also estimate the value of tenant or other customer relationships acquired by considering the nature and extent of existing business relationships with the tenant, growth prospects for developing new business with the tenant, the tenant's credit quality, expectations of lease renewals with the tenant, and the potential for significant, additional future leasing arrangements with the tenant. We amortize such value over the expected term of the associated arrangements or leases, which would include the remaining lives of the related leases and any expected renewal periods. The fair value of long-term debt is calculated by discounting the remaining contractual cash flows on each instrument at the current market rate for those borrowings. Discount rates are approximated based on the rate we estimate we would incur to replace each instrument on the date of acquisition. Any fair value adjustments related to long-term debt are recognized as effective yield adjustments over the remaining term of the instrument.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

We periodically evaluate our long-lived assets, primarily consisting of our investments in real estate, for impairment indicators in accordance with SFAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment and Disposal of Long-Lived Assets. If indicators of impairment are present, we evaluate the carrying value of the related real estate investments in relation to the future undiscounted cash flows of the underlying operations and adjust the net book value of leased properties and other long-lived assets to fair value if the sum of the expected future cash flows and sales proceeds is less than book value. An impairment loss is recognized at the time we make any such determination. Future events could occur which would cause us to conclude that impairment indicators exist and an impairment loss is warranted. We did not record any impairment charges for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005.

Loans and Other Amounts Receivable from Third Parties

We evaluate the collectibility of loans and other amounts receivable from third parties based on a number of factors, including (i) corporate and facility-level financial and operations reports, (ii) compliance with the financial covenants set forth in the borrowing or lease agreement, (iii) the financial stability of the applicable borrower or tenant and any guarantor and (iv) the payment history of the borrower or tenant. Our level of reserves, if any, for loans and other amounts receivable from third parties fluctuates depending upon all of these factors.

Revenue Recognition

Certain of our leases, excluding our master lease agreements with Kindred (the Kindred Master Leases), but including the majority of our leases with Brookdale Senior Living Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, which include Brookdale Living Communities, Inc. and Alterra Healthcare Corporation, Brookdale Senior Living), provide for periodic and determinable increases in base rent. Base rental revenues under these leases are recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the applicable lease. Income on our straight-line revenue is recognized when collectibility is reasonably assured. In the event we determine that collectibility of straight-line revenue is not reasonably assured, we establish an allowance for estimated losses. Recognizing rental income on a straight-line basis results in recognized revenue exceeding cash amounts contractually due from our tenants during the first half of the term for leases that have straight-line treatment.

Certain of our other leases, including the Kindred Master Leases, provide for an annual increase in rental payments only if certain revenue parameters or other contingencies are met. We recognize the increased rental revenue under these leases only if the revenue parameters or other contingencies are met rather than on a straight-

Table of Contents

line basis over the term of the applicable lease. We recognize income from rent, lease termination fees and other income once all of the following criteria are met in accordance with Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) Staff Accounting Bulletin 104: (i) the agreement has been fully executed and delivered; (ii) services have been rendered; (iii) the amount is fixed or determinable; and (iv) collectibility is reasonably assured.

Resident fees and services are recognized monthly as services are provided. Move in fees, which are included in resident fees and services, are recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the applicable lease agreement. Lease agreements with residents generally have a term of one year and are cancelable by the resident with 30 days notice.

Gain on Sale of Assets

We recognize sales of assets only upon the closing of the transaction with the purchaser. Payments received from purchasers prior to closing are recorded as deposits and classified as other assets on our Consolidated Balance Sheets included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Gains on assets sold are recognized using the full accrual method upon closing when the collectibility of the sales price is reasonably assured, we are not obligated to perform significant activities after the sale to earn the profit, we have received adequate initial investment from the buyer, and other profit recognition criteria have been satisfied. Gains may be deferred in whole or in part until the sales satisfy the requirements of gain recognition on sales of real estate under SFAS No. 66, Accounting for Sales of Real Estate.

Federal Income Tax

Since we have elected to be treated as a real estate investment trust (REIT) under the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), prior to the second quarter of 2007 we made no provision for federal income tax purposes and we will continue to make no provision for REIT income and expense. As a result of the Sunrise REIT acquisition, income tax expense or benefit is now being recorded with respect to certain entities which are taxed as taxable REIT subsidiaries under provisions similar to those applicable to regular corporations and not under the REIT provisions.

Deferred income taxes are accounted for using the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been included in the financial statements or tax returns. Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. An increase or decrease in the deferred tax liability that results from a change in circumstances, and which causes a change in our judgment about expected future tax consequences of events, would be included in the tax provision when the changes in circumstances and our judgment occurs. Deferred income taxes also reflect the impact of operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. A valuation allowance is provided if we believe it is more likely than not that all or some portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. An increase or decrease in the valuation allowance that results from a change in circumstances, and which causes a change in our judgment about the realizability of the related deferred tax asset, would be included in the tax provision when the changes in circumstances and our judgment occurs.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes (FIN 48). FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for income taxes when it is uncertain how an income or expense item should be treated on an income tax return. FIN 48 describes when and in what amount an uncertain tax item should be recorded in the financial statements and provides

Table of Contents

guidance on recording interest and penalties and accounting and reporting for income taxes in interim periods. We adopted FIN 48 on January 1, 2007. The adoption did not have a material impact on our Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements. This statement defines fair value and provides guidance for measuring fair value and the necessary disclosures. SFAS No. 157 does not require any new fair value measurements, but rather applies to all other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements. We adopted SFAS No. 157 on January 1, 2008. The adoption did not have a material impact on our Consolidated Financial Statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141(R), Business Combinations. SFAS No. 141(R) requires the acquiring entity in a business combination to measure the assets acquired, liabilities assumed (including contingencies) and any noncontrolling interests at their fair values on the acquisition date. The statement also requires that acquisition-related transaction costs be expensed as incurred and acquired research and development value be capitalized. In addition, acquisition-related restructuring costs are to be capitalized only if they meet certain criteria. SFAS No. 141(R) will be effective for us beginning on January 1, 2009. Early adoption is prohibited. We have not yet determined the impact, if any, the adoption of this new accounting pronouncement is expected to have on our Consolidated Financial Statements.

In December 2007, the FASB also issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an amendment of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51. SFAS No. 160 requires the classification of noncontrolling interests (formerly, minority interests) as a component of consolidated equity. In addition, net income will include the total income of all consolidated subsidiaries with the attribution of earnings and other comprehensive income between controlling and noncontrolling interests reported as a separate disclosure on the face of the consolidated income statement. The calculation of earnings per share will continue to be based on income amounts attributable to the parent. SFAS No. 160 also addresses accounting and reporting for a change in control of a subsidiary. SFAS No. 160 will be effective for us beginning on January 1, 2009. Early adoption is prohibited. This statement is required to be adopted prospectively, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements, which are required to be adopted retrospectively. We have not yet determined the impact, if any, the adoption of this new accounting pronouncement is expected to have on our Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations**

The tables below show our results of operations for each year and the absolute dollar and percentage changes in those results from year to year (dollars in thousands).

Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

	Year Ended December 31,		Change	
	2007	2006	\$	%
Revenues:				
Rental income	\$ 483,985	\$ 405,952	\$ 78,033	19.2%
Resident fees and services	282,226		282,226	nm
Interest income from loans receivable	2,586	7,014	(4,428)	(63.1)
Interest and other income	2,994	2,886	108	3.7
 Total revenues	 771,791	 415,852	 355,939	 85.6
Expenses:				
Interest	204,218	136,544	67,674	49.6
Depreciation and amortization	234,061	117,172	116,889	99.8
Property-level operating expenses	198,125	3,171	194,954	nm
General, administrative and professional fees (including non-cash stock-based compensation expense of \$7,493 and \$3,046 for the years ended 2007 and 2006, respectively)	36,425	26,136	10,289	39.4
(Gain) loss on extinguishment of debt	(88)	1,273	(1,361)	nm
Rent reset costs		7,361	(7,361)	nm
Reversal of contingent liability		(1,769)	1,769	nm
Foreign currency gain	(24,280)		(24,280)	nm
Merger-related expenses	2,979		2,979	nm
 Total expenses	 651,440	 289,888		