

Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.
 Form 424B7
 August 18, 2017
Table of Contents

As Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(7)

Registration Statement No. 333-218648

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Shares to be Registered	Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee(1)(2)
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	2,825,016	\$50.69	\$143,200,061	\$16,597

- (1) Calculated in accordance with Rule 457(o) and 457(r) and under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (2) Payment of the registration fee at the time of filing of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-3, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 9, 2017 (File No. 333-218648) (the Registration Statement), was deferred pursuant to Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The Registrant deposited \$16,597 by wire transfer of same-day funds to the Securities and Exchange Commission's account at US Bank on August 17, 2017. This paragraph shall be deemed to update the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the Registration Statement.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To prospectus dated June 9, 2017)

2,825,016 Shares

Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.

Common Stock

The selling stockholders named in this prospectus supplement are selling an aggregate of 2,825,016 shares of our common stock. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares of our common stock by the selling stockholders. Certain of the selling stockholders are members of our senior management. See **Selling Stockholders**. We will bear all of the offering expenses other than the underwriting discounts and commissions. The selling stockholders will pay underwriting discounts and commissions with respect to the sale of these shares.

Our shares trade on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol **ACHC**. On August 15, 2017, the last reported sale price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$52.01 per share.

Investing in shares of our common stock involves substantial risks that are described in the Risk Factors sections beginning on page S-3 of this prospectus supplement and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, which we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

The underwriter has agreed to purchase shares of our common stock from the selling stockholders at a price of \$50.69 per share, which will result in approximately \$143,200,061 of aggregate proceeds to the selling stockholders before expenses. The underwriter may offer the shares of common stock from time to time for sale in one or more transactions on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, in the over-the-counter market, through negotiated transactions or otherwise at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at

negotiated prices. See Underwriting on page S-13 of this prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The shares will be ready for delivery on or about August 22, 2017.

Citigroup

The date of this prospectus supplement is August 16, 2017.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</u>	S-ii
<u>SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	S-ii
<u>MARKET AND INDUSTRY DATA</u>	S-iv
<u>CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE</u>	S-iv
<u>TRADEMARKS AND TRADE NAMES</u>	S-v
<u>PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY</u>	S-1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	S-3
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-4
<u>PRICE RANGE OF OUR COMMON STOCK</u>	S-4
<u>DIVIDEND POLICY</u>	S-4
<u>SELLING STOCKHOLDERS</u>	S-5
<u>MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS FOR NON-U.S. HOLDERS</u>	S-9
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-13
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-21
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-21
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	S-21
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u>	S-22

Prospectus

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE</u>	2
<u>THE COMPANY</u>	2
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	4
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK</u>	6
<u>SELLING STOCKHOLDERS</u>	11
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	11
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	14
<u>EXPERTS</u>	14
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	14
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u>	15

our significant indebtedness, our ability to meet our debt obligations, and our ability to incur substantially more debt;

S-ii

Table of Contents

difficulties in successfully integrating the operations of acquired facilities or realizing the potential benefits and synergies of our acquisitions and joint ventures;

our ability to implement our business strategies in the United States, or the U.S., and the United Kingdom, or the U.K., and adapt to the regulatory and business environment in the U.K.;

potential difficulties operating our business in light of political and economic instability in the U.K. and globally following the referendum in the U.K. on June 23, 2016, in which voters approved an exit from the European Union, or Brexit;

the impact of fluctuations in foreign exchange rates, including the devaluations of the British pound relative to the U.S. dollar following the Brexit vote;

the impact of payments received from the government and third-party payors on our revenue and results of operations including the significant dependence of our U.K. facilities on payments received from the National Health Service;

the occurrence of patient incidents, which could result in negative media coverage, adversely affect the price of our securities and result in incremental regulatory burdens and governmental investigations;

our future cash flow and earnings;

our restrictive covenants, which may restrict our business and financing activities;

our ability to make payments on our financing arrangements;

the impact of the economic and employment conditions in the U.S. and the U.K. on our business and future results of operations;

compliance with laws and government regulations;

the impact of claims brought against us and our facilities;

the impact of governmental investigations, regulatory actions and whistleblower lawsuits;

the impact of healthcare reform in the U.S. and abroad, including the potential repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act;

the impact of our highly competitive industry on patient volumes;

our ability to recruit and retain quality psychiatrists and other physicians;

the impact of competition for staffing on our labor costs and profitability;

the impact of increases to our labor costs;

our dependence on key management personnel, key executives and local facility management personnel;

our acquisition, joint venture and de novo strategies, which expose us to a variety of operational and financial risks, as well as legal and regulatory risks;

the impact of state efforts to regulate the construction or expansion of healthcare facilities on our ability to operate and expand our operations;

our potential inability to extend leases at expiration;

the impact of controls designed to reduce inpatient services on our revenues;

the impact of different interpretations of accounting principles on our results of operations or financial condition;

the impact of environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, especially in locations where we have concentrated operations;

Table of Contents

the impact of an increase in uninsured and underinsured patients or the deterioration in the collectability of the accounts of such patients on our results of operations;

the risk of a cyber-security incident and any resulting violation of laws and regulations regarding information privacy or other negative impact;

the impact of laws and regulations relating to privacy and security of patient health information and standards for electronic transactions;

our ability to cultivate and maintain relationships with referral sources;

the impact of a change in the mix of our U.S. and U.K. earnings, adverse changes in our effective tax rate and adverse developments in tax laws generally;

failure to maintain effective internal control over financial reporting;

the impact of fluctuations in our operating results, quarter to quarter earnings and other factors on the price of our securities;

the impact of the trend for insurance companies and managed care organizations to enter into sole source contracts on our ability to obtain patients;

the impact of value-based purchasing programs on our revenue; and

those risks and uncertainties described from time to time in our filings with the SEC.

This list of risks and uncertainties, however, is only a summary of some of the most important factors and is not intended to be exhaustive. Given these risks and uncertainties, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties may cause our actual future results to be materially different than those expressed in our forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are made only as of the date of this prospectus supplement. Except as otherwise required by applicable law, we do not undertake and expressly disclaim any obligation to update any such statements or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any such statements to reflect future events or developments. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us, or to persons acting on our behalf, are expressly qualified in their entirety by these cautionary statements.

MARKET AND INDUSTRY DATA

We obtained the market and competitive position data used in the documents incorporated by reference herein from our own research, surveys or studies conducted by third parties and industry or general publications. Such surveys,

studies and publications generally state that they have obtained information from sources believed to be reliable, but do not guarantee the accuracy and completeness of such information. While we believe that each of these studies and publications is reliable, we have not independently verified the information, and we have not ascertained the underlying economic assumptions relied upon therein, and we do not make any representation as to the accuracy of such information. Similarly, we believe our internal research is reliable, but it has not been verified by any independent sources. Our estimates involve risks and uncertainties, and are subject to change based on various factors, including those discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement and in similarly titled sections in our reports that we file with the SEC.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

This prospectus supplement contains or incorporates by reference translations of amounts denominated in British Pounds Sterling into United States, or U.S., dollars at specific rates solely for the convenience of the potential investor. We make no representation that any amounts denominated in either British Pounds Sterling or U.S. dollars could have been, or could be, converted into either British Pounds Sterling or U.S. dollars, as applicable, at any particular rate, at the rates stated herein or therein, or at all.

S-iv

Table of Contents

TRADEMARKS AND TRADE NAMES

This prospectus supplement includes our trademarks, which are protected under applicable intellectual property laws and are the property of Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc. or its subsidiaries. This prospectus supplement also contains trademarks, service marks, trade names and copyrights of other companies, which are the property of their respective owners. Solely for convenience, trademarks and trade names referred to in this prospectus supplement may appear without the ® or TM symbols, but such references are not intended to indicate, in any way, that we will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, our rights or the right of the applicable licensor to these trademarks and trade names.

S-v

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information appearing elsewhere in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that you should consider when making your investment decision. You should carefully read the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the information incorporated herein by reference, including the section entitled Risk Factors beginning on page S-3 of this prospectus supplement and the Risk Factors section in the accompanying prospectus, in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 and in our other reports that we file with the SEC.

In this prospectus supplement, unless the context requires otherwise, references to Acadia, the Company, we, us and our refer to Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc., together with its consolidated subsidiaries.

Our Company

We are the leading publicly traded pure-play provider of behavioral healthcare services, with operations in the U.S. and the U.K. As of June 30, 2017, we operated a network of 576 behavioral healthcare facilities with approximately 17,300 beds in 39 states, the U.K. and Puerto Rico.

Our inpatient facilities offer a wide range of inpatient behavioral healthcare services for children, adolescents and adults. We offer these services through a combination of acute inpatient psychiatric and specialty facilities and residential treatment centers, or RTCs. Our acute inpatient psychiatric and specialty facilities provide the most intensive level of care, including 24-hour skilled nursing observation and care, daily interventions and oversight by a psychiatrist and intensive, highly-coordinated treatment by a physician-led team of mental health professionals. Our RTCs offer longer-term treatment programs primarily for children and adolescents with long-standing chronic behavioral health problems. Our RTCs provide physician-led, multi-disciplinary treatments that address the overall medical, psychiatric, social and academic needs of the patient.

Our outpatient community-based services provide therapeutic treatment to children and adolescents who have a clinically defined emotional, psychiatric or chemical dependency disorder while enabling patients to remain at home and within their community. Many patients who participate in community-based programs have transitioned out of a residential facility or have a disorder that does not require placement in a facility that provides 24-hour care.

In the U.K., we provide inpatient services through a variety of facilities, including mental health hospitals, clinics, care homes, schools, colleges and children's homes. In addition to these services, we also operate a U.K. division that leverages on our clinical knowledge to provide Employee Assistance Programs to organizations.

Company Information

Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc. is a Delaware corporation. On May 13, 2011, we converted from a Delaware limited liability company (Acadia Healthcare Company, LLC) to a Delaware corporation (Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.) in accordance with Delaware law. Our principal executive offices are located at 6100 Tower Circle, Suite 1000, Franklin, Tennessee 37067. Our telephone number is (615) 861-6000. Our website is www.acadiahealthcare.com. The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus and is not incorporated in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any other document that we file with the SEC by reference.

S-1

Table of Contents

The Offering

Common stock offered by the selling stockholders	2,825,016 shares
Common stock to be outstanding after this offering	87,881,061 shares. The number of shares of common stock outstanding will not change as a result of this offering.
Use of Proceeds	We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares of our common stock by the selling stockholders. See Use of Proceeds.
Risk Factors	You should carefully consider the risk factors set forth in the section entitled Risk Factors beginning on page S-3 of this prospectus supplement and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 and in our other reports that we file with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, before making any decision to invest in our common stock.

NASDAQ Global Select Market Symbol ACHC

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering is based on 87,881,061 shares of our common stock outstanding as of August 11, 2017 and excludes:

969,579 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options outstanding as of August 11, 2017 at a weighted average exercise price of \$48.12;

360,909 shares issuable upon the vesting of restricted stock units outstanding as of August 11, 2017;

an aggregate of 4,471,526 shares reserved for future grants under our Incentive Compensation Plan as of August 11, 2017.

For additional information regarding our common stock, see Description of Common Stock in the accompanying prospectus.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our common stock involves risks. Before making an investment in our common stock, you should carefully consider, among other factors, the risks identified under **Risk Factors** in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. Please also refer to the section above entitled **Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**. Please also see **Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements** in the accompanying prospectus and the risks described in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and in our other filings. The risks described in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement are not the only ones we face. Additional risks not presently known or that we currently deem immaterial could also materially and adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, business and prospects. You should consult your own financial and legal advisors as to the risks entailed by an investment in these shares and the suitability of investing in such shares in light of your particular circumstances. Our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected by the materialization of any of these risks. The trading price of our common stock could decline due to the materialization of any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of our common stock by the selling stockholders in this offering. All proceeds from this offering will be received by the selling stockholders.

PRICE RANGE OF OUR COMMON STOCK

Our common stock trades on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol ACHC. The table below sets forth, for the quarters indicated, the high and low sales prices of our common stock as reported by The NASDAQ Global Select Market. As of August 11, 2017, there were 87,881,061 shares outstanding, held by 518 stockholders of record. On August 15, 2017, the last reported sale price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$52.01 per share.

	Sale Price Per Share of Common Stock	
	High	Low
2017		
Third Quarter (through August 15, 2017)	\$ 54.34	\$ 47.38
Second Quarter	49.99	40.37
First Quarter	47.39	32.69
2016		
Fourth Quarter	\$ 50.18	\$ 32.54
Third Quarter	57.29	46.99
Second Quarter	65.00	50.30
First Quarter	65.89	49.77
2015		
Fourth Quarter	\$ 74.77	\$ 54.41
Third Quarter	85.62	58.70
Second Quarter	78.51	64.91
First Quarter	73.81	55.57

DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never declared or paid dividends on our common stock. We currently intend to retain all available funds and any future earnings to fund the development and growth of our business and to repay indebtedness, and therefore we do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Additionally, because we are a holding company, our ability to pay dividends on our common stock is limited by restrictions on the ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends or make distributions to us, including restrictions under the terms of the agreements governing our indebtedness. Any future determination to pay dividends out of funds available thereof will be at the discretion of our board of directors, subject to compliance with covenants in current and future agreements governing our indebtedness (including our Amended and Restated Senior Credit Facility and the indentures governing our Senior Notes), and will depend upon our results of operations, financial condition, capital requirements and other factors that our board of directors deems relevant.

Table of Contents**SELLING STOCKHOLDERS**

The table below sets forth information with respect to the selling stockholders and the shares of our common stock beneficially owned by the selling stockholders as of August 11, 2017. The percentages of shares owned prior to and after the offering are based on the 87,881,061 shares of our common stock outstanding as of August 11, 2017. The information regarding shares beneficially owned after the offering assumes the sale of all shares offered by the selling stockholders, in the aggregate, and that the selling stockholders do not acquire any additional shares. Information in the table below with respect to beneficial ownership has been furnished by the selling stockholders, without independent verification by us.

The amounts and percentage of common stock beneficially owned are reported on the basis of regulations of the SEC governing the determination of beneficial ownership of securities. Under the rules of the SEC, a person is deemed to be a beneficial owner of a security if that person has or shares voting power, which includes the power to vote or to direct the voting of such security, or investment power, which includes the power to dispose of or to direct the disposition of such security. A person is also deemed to be a beneficial owner of any securities of which that person has a right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days. Under these rules, more than one person may be deemed a beneficial owner of the same securities and a person may be deemed a beneficial owner of securities as to which he or she has no economic interest. The number of shares of common stock outstanding used in calculating the percentage for each listed person includes the shares of common stock underlying options held by such person that are exercisable within 60 days after August 11, 2017, but excludes shares of common stock underlying options held by any other person.

Except as indicated by footnote, the selling stockholders named in the table below have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of common stock shown as beneficially owned by them.

Name ⁽¹⁾	Shares Beneficially Owned Before the Offering		Number of Shares Offered	Shares Beneficially Owned After the Offering	
	Number	Percentage		Number	Percentage
Waud Capital Partners, L.L.C. and certain affiliates ⁽²⁾	2,187,791	2.5%	984,075	1,203,716	1.4%
Bain Capital Investors, LLC and related funds ⁽³⁾	998,438	1.1%	998,438		
RGIP, LP ⁽⁴⁾	2,538	*	2,538		
Joey A. Jacobs ⁽⁵⁾	1,038,422	1.2%	500,000	538,422	*
Brent Turner ⁽⁶⁾	315,116	*	206,252	108,126	*
Ronald M. Fincher ⁽⁷⁾	154,978	*	80,000	74,978	*
Christopher L. Howard ⁽⁸⁾	221,056	*	53,713	167,343	*

* Represents beneficial ownership of less than 1% of our outstanding common stock.

- (1) Each of the selling stockholders is a party to the amended and restated stockholders agreement with Acadia, or the New Stockholders Agreement. Certain rights and obligations under the New Stockholders Agreement have expired. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions with Selling Stockholders Stockholders Agreement.
- (2) Includes shares owned of record as follows: (i) 193,745 shares by Waud Capital Partners II, L.P. (WCP II), (ii) 354,195 shares by Waud Capital Partners QP II, L.P. (Waud QP II), (iii) 54,057 by WCP FIF II (Acadia), L.P.

Edgar Filing: Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc. - Form 424B7

(WCP FIF II), (iv) 31,097 shares by Waud Capital Partners III, L.P. (WCP III), (v) 175,851 shares by Waud Capital Partners QP III, L.P. (Waud QP III), (vi) 77,176 shares by WCP FIF III (Acadia), L.P. (WCP FIF III), (vii) 55,363 shares by Waud Capital Affiliates II, L.L.C. (Waud Affiliates II), (viii) 28,412 shares by Waud Capital Affiliates III, L.L.C. (Waud Affiliates III), (ix) 331,113 shares by the Halcyon Exempt Family Trust (the Halcyon Trust), (x) 14,179 shares by Waud Family Partners, L.P. (WFP LP), (xi) 33,333 shares by Melissa W. Waud, Mr. Reeve B. Waud s wife, (xii) 37,493 shares by Waud Capital Partners, L.L.C. (WCP LLC); (xiii) 795,667 shares by Crystal Cove LP; and (xiv) 6,110 shares of restricted stock by Mr. Reeve B. Waud.

S-5

Table of Contents

The following entities named in the immediately prior paragraph will sell all of their shares in this offering as follows: (i) 193,745 shares by WCP II; (ii) 354,195 shares by Waud QP II; (iii) 54,057 shares by WCP FIF II; (iv) 31,097 shares by WCP III; (v) 175,851 shares by Waud QP III; (vii) 77,176 shares by WCP FIF III; (viii) 55,363 shares by Waud Affiliates II; (ix) 28,412 shares by Waud Affiliates III; and (x) 14,179 shares by WFP LP.

Waud Capital Partners Management II, L.P. (WCPM II), as the general partner of WCP II, Waud QP II and WCP FIF II and the manager of Waud Affiliates II, and Waud Capital Partners II, L.L.C. (Waud II LLC), as the general partner of WCPM II, may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares held of record by such entities. Waud Capital Partners Management III, L.P. (WCPM III), as the general partner of WCP III, Waud QP III and WCP FIF III and the manager of Waud Affiliates III, and Waud Capital Partners III, L.L.C. (Waud III LLC), as the general partner of WCPM III, may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares held of record by such entities. Mr. Waud may be deemed to beneficially own the shares of Common Stock held by each of the above entities by virtue of his (A) making decisions for the limited partner committee of each of WCPM II and WCPM III, (B) being the manager of Waud II LLC and Waud III LLC, (C) being the general partner of WFP LP and Crystal Cove LP, (D) being the investment advisor of the Halcyon Trust of which Mr. Waud's children are beneficiaries, (E) being married to Ms. Waud, and (F) being the sole manager of WCP LLC.

- (3) The shares included in the table consist of: (i) 850,782 shares of common stock held by Bain Capital Fund VIII, LLC (Fund VIII); (ii) 111,972 shares of common stock held by Bain Capital VIII Coinvestment Fund, LLC (Coinvestment Fund VIII); (iii) 314 shares of common stock held by BCIP Associates-G (Associates-G); (iv) 19,034 shares of common stock held by BCIP Associates III, LLC (BCIP III); (v) 8,638 shares of common stock held by BCIP T Associates III, LLC (BCIP T III); (vi) 2,606 shares of common stock held by BCIP Associates III-B, LLC (BCIP III-B); (vii) 531 shares of common stock held by BCIP T Associates III-B, LLC (BCIP T III-B); and (viii) 4,561 shares of common stock held by Bain Capital (CR) L.P. (Bain CR) and, together with Fund VII, Coinvestment Fund VIII, Associates-G, BCIP III, BCIP T III and BCIP T III-B, the Bain Capital Entities).

In this offering, the Bain Capital Entities will sell all of such shares. The governance, investment strategy and decision-making process with respect to investments held by the Bain Capital Entities is directed by the Global Private Equity Board of Bain Capital Investors, LLC (BCI). By virtue of the relationships described in this footnote, BCI may be deemed to exercise voting and dispositive power with respect to the shares held by the Bain Capital Entities.

- (4) The general partner of RGIP, LP is RGIP GP, LLC.
- (5) Includes 76,201 shares of restricted stock, options to purchase 69,277 shares of common stock, 283,825 shares held by the Jeremy Brent Jacobs GST Non-Exempt Trust u/a/d 04/26/2011 (the Jeremy Jacobs Trust) and 283,824 shares held by the Scott Douglas Jacobs GST Non-Exempt Trust u/a/d 04/26/2011 (the Scott Jacobs Trust). Of the shares specified as offered in the table above, 200,000 shares are offered by Mr. Jacobs, 150,000 shares are offered by the Jeremy Jacobs Trust and 150,000 shares are offered by the Scott Jacobs Trust. Mr. Jacobs is our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Table of Contents

- (6) Includes 15,536 shares of restricted stock, options to purchase 27,758 shares of common stock, 103,126 shares held by the Elizabeth Grace Turner 2011 Vested Trust (the Elizabeth Turner Trust) and 103,126 shares held by the William Jesse Turner 2011 Vested Trust (the William Turner Trust). Of the shares specified as offered in the table above, 103,126 shares are offered by the Elizabeth Turner Trust and 103,126 shares are offered by the William Turner Trust. Mr. Turner is our President.
- (7) Includes 16,803 shares of restricted stock, options to purchase 4,772 shares of common stock, 13,712 shares held by the Ras Fincher Trust, 13,711 shares held by the Morgan Fincher Trust and 13,712 shares held by the Cody Fincher Trust. Of the shares specified as offered in the table above, 50,000 shares are offered by Mr. Fincher, 10,000 shares are offered by the Ras Fincher Trust, 10,000 shares are offered by the Morgan Fincher Trust and 10,000 shares are offered by the Cody Fincher Trust. Mr. Fincher is our Chief Operating Officer.
- (8) Includes 13,598 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 20,057 shares of common stock. Mr. Howard is our Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary.

Certain Relationships and Related Transactions with the Selling Stockholders

The following section references Acadia Healthcare Holdings, LLC, or Acadia Holdings, which was a privately owned holding company that owned Acadia prior to the consummation of its acquisition of PHC, or the PHC Acquisition, and was controlled by Waud Capital Partners, L.L.C. and certain of its affiliates, or WCP LLC.

Registration Rights

Effective April 1, 2011, Acadia Holdings entered into an amended and restated registration rights agreement, or the Initial Registration Rights Agreement, with the holders of substantially all of its equity securities at the time pursuant to which such holders had the right to demand the registration of all or a portion of their securities and have certain piggyback registration rights, subject to certain limitations. In connection with the consummation of our acquisition of PHC, Inc., or PHC, on November 1, 2011, WCP LLC and the other members of Acadia Holdings caused the dissolution of Acadia Holdings and the distribution of the common stock held by Acadia Holdings to its members. In connection with such dissolution and distribution, we assumed Acadia Holdings' rights and obligations under the Initial Registration Rights Agreement.

Concurrently with the execution of the merger agreement, or the CRC Merger Agreement, related to our acquisition of CRC Health Group, Inc., or CRC, in February 2015 we entered into a second amended and restated registration rights agreement, as amended, or the Former Registration Rights Agreement, with certain members of our current and former management, or the Management Investors, WCP LLC and investment funds affiliated with Bain Capital Partners, LLC, or collectively, Bain Capital. The Former Registration Rights Agreement amended and replaced the Initial Registration Rights Agreement. The Former Registration Rights Agreement granted certain stockholders demand registration rights for registered offerings and piggyback registration rights with respect to our securities. All expenses incident to registrations were required to be borne by us.

Concurrently with the execution of the sale and purchase deed related to our acquisition of Priory Group No. 1 Limited in December 2015, we entered into a third amended and restated registration rights agreement, or the New Registration Rights Agreement, with the Management Investors, WCP LLC, Bain Capital and investment funds affiliated with Advent International Corporation. The New Registration Rights Agreement amended and replaced the Former Registration Rights Agreement. The New Registration Rights Agreement grants certain stockholders demand registration rights for registered offerings and piggyback registration rights with respect to our securities. All expenses incident to registrations are required to be borne by us.

Stockholders Agreement

In connection with the consummation of our acquisition of PHC on November 1, 2011, we entered into a stockholders agreement, or the Former Stockholders Agreement, with certain members of our current and former management and WCP LLC. Concurrently with the execution of the CRC Merger Agreement, we entered into

S-7

Table of Contents

the New Stockholders Agreement with the Management Investors, WCP LLC and Bain Capital. The New Stockholders Agreement amended and replaced the Former Stockholders Agreement and became effective on February 11, 2015 in connection with the closing of our acquisition of CRC.

Certain covenants and consent rights in favor of WCP LLC contained in the Former Stockholders Agreement were removed in the New Stockholders Agreement or have since expired. The New Stockholders Agreement granted WCP LLC certain rights to designate a nominee for election to our board of directors and certain consent rights over transfer of shares by Management Investors that have expired. The New Stockholders Agreement includes a standstill provision that prevents Bain Capital from acquiring additional shares of our Common Stock, mounting a proxy contest, seeking to enter into a merger agreement, taking us private or taking certain other actions involving the sale or purchase of a substantial portion of our securities or debt.

Lock-Ups. The New Stockholders Agreement provides that no Management Investor will take any of the following actions from the date the Company gives notice to the Management Investors that a preliminary or final prospectus has been circulated for a public offering and during the 60 days following the date of the final prospectus for such public offering: (i) offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any of the Company's or its subsidiaries' equity securities or any securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for such securities; (ii) enter into any transaction which would have the same effect as described in clause (i); (iii) enter into any swap, hedge or other arrangement that transfers, in whole or part, any of the economic consequences or ownership of any of the securities described in clause (i); or (iv) publicly disclose the intention to enter into any transaction described in clauses (i), (ii) or (iii). The foregoing restrictions do not apply to transactions made in the subject public offering and those to which the underwriters managing such public offering agree in writing.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS FOR NON-U.S. HOLDERS

The following is a general discussion of the material U.S. federal income tax considerations with respect to the ownership and disposition of our common stock applicable to a Non-U.S. Holder (as defined below) that purchases such shares in this offering. This summary applies only to a Non-U.S. Holder that holds our common stock as a capital asset (i.e., generally as an investment) within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code.

For purposes of this summary, a Non-U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of our common stock that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a nonresident alien individual;

a foreign corporation (or entity treated as a foreign corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes); or

a foreign estate or foreign trust.

This summary is based upon the provisions of the Code, the U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated under the Code and administrative and judicial interpretations of the Code, all as of the date of this prospectus supplement. Those authorities may be changed, perhaps retroactively, so as to result in U.S. federal income tax consequences different from those summarized below. We cannot assure you that a change in law, possibly with retroactive application, will not alter significantly the tax considerations that we describe in this prospectus supplement. We have not sought and do not plan to seek any ruling from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, or the IRS, with respect to statements made and the conclusions reached in the following discussion, and we cannot assure you that the IRS or a court will agree with our statements and conclusions.

This discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation or any aspects of alternative minimum, estate and gift, state, local, or non-U.S. taxation. In addition, this discussion does not address any aspects of the Medicare contribution tax. This discussion also does not consider any specific facts or circumstances that may apply to particular Non-U.S. Holders that may be subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws, including, but not limited to insurance companies; tax-exempt organizations; financial institutions; tax-qualified retirement plans; brokers or dealers in securities; investors that hold our common stock as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion transaction, synthetic security or other integrated investment; controlled foreign corporations; passive foreign investment companies; expatriates and former long-term residents of the United States; and investors in pass-through entities. Such Non-U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors to determine the U.S. federal, state, local and other tax consequences that may be relevant to them.

If a partnership or any other entity or arrangement taxed as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes is a beneficial owner of our common stock, the treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner of such partnership and the activities of the partnership. Accordingly, partnerships (and entities and arrangements taxed as partnerships) that hold our common stock and owners in such partnerships (or other entities or arrangements taxed as partnerships) are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the specific U.S. federal income tax consequences to them of acquiring, owning or disposing of our common stock.

PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISORS REGARDING THE PARTICULAR U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF ACQUIRING, OWNING AND DISPOSING OF SHARES OF OUR COMMON STOCK, AS WELL AS THE U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, ESTATE AND GIFT TAX AND NON-U.S. INCOME AND OTHER TAX CONSIDERATIONS OF ACQUIRING, OWNING AND DISPOSING OF SHARES OF OUR COMMON STOCK.

S-9

Table of Contents

Distributions on Our Common Stock

As discussed under the section entitled **Dividend Policy** above, we do not currently anticipate paying dividends. In the event that we do make a distribution of cash or property (other than certain stock distributions) with respect to our common stock (or certain redemptions that are treated as distributions with respect to common stock), any such distributions will be treated as a dividend for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent paid from our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles). Dividends paid to you generally will be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty, unless the dividends are effectively connected with a trade or business carried on by you within the United States (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, are attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment or fixed base maintained by you).

Dividends that are effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business by you within the United States and, where a tax treaty applies, are generally attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment or fixed base, are not subject to the U.S. withholding tax, but instead are subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis at applicable graduated individual or corporate rates. Certain certification and disclosure requirements including delivery of a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI (or other applicable form) must be satisfied for effectively connected dividends to be exempt from withholding. Any such effectively connected dividends received by a foreign corporation may be subject to an additional **branch profits tax** at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

If the amount of a distribution paid on our common stock exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits, such excess will be allocated ratably among each share of common stock with respect to which the distribution is paid and treated first as a tax-free return of capital to the extent of your adjusted tax basis in each such share, and thereafter as capital gain from a sale or other disposition of such share of common stock that is taxed to you as described below under the heading **Gain on Sale or Other Disposition of Our Common Stock**. Your adjusted tax basis is generally the purchase price of such shares, reduced by the amount of any such tax-free returns of capital.

If you wish to claim the benefit of an applicable treaty rate to avoid or reduce withholding of U.S. federal income tax for dividends, then you must (a) provide the withholding agent with a properly completed IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E (or other applicable form) and certify under penalties of perjury that you are not a U.S. person and are eligible for treaty benefits, or (b) if our common stock is held through certain foreign intermediaries, satisfy the relevant certification requirements of applicable U.S. Treasury regulations. Special certification and other requirements apply to certain Non-U.S. Holders that act as intermediaries (including partnerships).

Gain on Sale or Other Disposition of Our Common Stock

Subject to the information below under **Information Reporting and Backup Withholding** and **Foreign Accounts**, you generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax with respect to gain realized on the sale or other taxable disposition of our common stock, unless:

the gain is effectively connected with a trade or business you conduct in the United States, and, in cases in which certain tax treaties apply, is attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment or fixed base;

if you are a nonresident alien individual, you are present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale or other taxable disposition, and certain other conditions are met; or

we are or have been during a specified testing period a U.S. real property holding corporation, or USRPHC, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and certain other conditions are met.

If you are an individual described in the first bullet point above, you will be subject to tax on the net gain derived from the sale under regular graduated U.S. federal income tax rates. If you are a foreign corporation

S-10

Table of Contents

described in the first bullet point above, you will be subject to tax on your gain under regular graduated U.S. federal income tax rates and, in addition, may be subject to the branch profits tax equal to 30% of your effectively connected earnings and profits, subject to certain adjustments, or at such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

If you are an individual described in the second bullet point above, you will be subject to a flat 30% tax (or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty between the United States and your country of residence) on the net gain derived from the sale, which may be offset by certain U.S. source capital losses, if any, recognized in the taxable year of the disposition of our common stock.

With respect to the third bullet point above, generally, we will be a USRPHC if the fair market value of our U.S. real property interests equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market values of our worldwide real property interests and other assets used or held for use in a trade or business, all as determined under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations. We believe that we are not currently and will not become a USRPHC. However, because the determination of whether we are a USRPHC depends on the fair market value of our U.S. real property relative to the fair market value of our other business assets, there can be no assurance that we will not become a USRPHC in the future. Even if we become a USRPHC, however, as long as our common stock is regularly traded on an established securities market, such common stock will be treated as U.S. real property interests only if you actually or constructively held more than 5% of our common stock at any time during the shorter of the five-year period preceding the disposition or your holding period for our common stock.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

The relevant payor must report annually to the IRS and to each Non-U.S. Holder the amount of the dividends on our common stock paid to such holder and the tax withheld, if any, with respect to such dividends. This information also may be made available under a specific treaty or agreement with the tax authorities in the country in which the Non-U.S. Holder resides or is established. Non-U.S. Holders will have to comply with specific certification procedures to establish that the holder is not a U.S. person (as defined in the Code) in order to avoid backup withholding at the applicable rate with respect to dividends on our common stock.

Information reporting and backup withholding will generally apply to the proceeds of a disposition of our common stock by a Non-U.S. Holder effected by or through the U.S. office of any broker, U.S. or foreign, unless the holder certifies its status as a Non-U.S. Holder and satisfies certain other requirements, or otherwise establishes an exemption. Generally, information reporting and backup withholding will not apply to a payment of disposition proceeds to a Non-U.S. Holder where the transaction is effected outside the United States through a non-U.S. office of a broker. However, for information reporting purposes, dispositions effected through a non-U.S. office of a broker with substantial U.S. ownership or operations generally will be treated in a manner similar to dispositions effected through a U.S. office of a broker.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a Non-U.S. Holder may be allowed as a credit against the Non-U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, and may entitle such holder to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Foreign Accounts

Under provisions of the Code commonly referred to as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, or FATCA, and related Treasury guidance, a withholding tax of 30% will be imposed in certain circumstances on payments of

(a) dividends on our common stock, and (b) gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of our common stock on or after January 1, 2019. In the case of payments made to a foreign financial institution as defined under FATCA (including, among other entities, an investment fund), as a beneficial owner or as an intermediary, the tax generally will be imposed, subject to certain exceptions, unless such institution (i) enters into (or is otherwise subject to) and complies with an agreement with the U.S. government, or a FATCA

S-11

Table of Contents

Agreement, or (ii) is required by and complies with applicable foreign law enacted in connection with an intergovernmental agreement between the United States and a foreign jurisdiction, or an IGA, in either case to, among other things, collect and provide to the U.S. or other relevant tax authorities certain information regarding U.S. account holders of such institution.

In the case of payments made to a foreign entity that is not a financial institution (as a beneficial owner), the tax generally will be imposed, subject to certain exceptions, unless such foreign entity provides the withholding agent with a certification that it does not have any substantial U.S. owners (generally, any specified U.S. person that directly or indirectly owns more than 10% of such entity) or that identifies its substantial U.S. owners.

If our common stock is held through a foreign financial institution that enters into (or is otherwise subject to) a FATCA Agreement, such foreign financial institution (or, in certain cases, a person paying amounts to such foreign financial institution) generally will be required, subject to certain exceptions, to withhold tax on payments of dividends and proceeds described above made to (x) a person (including an individual) that fails to comply with certain information requests or (y) a foreign financial institution that has not entered into (and is not otherwise subject to) a FATCA Agreement and is not a person required to comply with FATCA pursuant to applicable foreign law enacted in connection with an IGA.

Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible impact of these rules on their investment in our common stock, and the entities through which they hold our common stock, including, without limitation, the process and deadlines for meeting the applicable requirements to prevent the imposition of this 30% withholding tax under FATCA.

THE SUMMARY OF MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS ABOVE IS INCLUDED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. POTENTIAL PURCHASERS OF OUR COMMON STOCK ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS TO DETERMINE THE U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND NON-U.S. TAX CONSIDERATIONS OF PURCHASING, OWNING AND DISPOSING OF OUR COMMON STOCK.

Table of Contents

UNDERWRITING

Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is acting as underwriter of the offering. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in an underwriting agreement among us, the selling stockholders and the underwriter, the selling stockholders, severally, have agreed to sell to the underwriter, and the underwriter has agreed to purchase from the selling stockholders, an aggregate of 2,825,016 shares of our common stock.

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement, the underwriter has agreed to purchase all of the shares sold under the underwriting agreement if any of these shares are purchased. If the underwriter defaults, the underwriting agreement provides that the underwriting agreement may be terminated.

We and the selling stockholders, severally, have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriter may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

The underwriter is offering the shares, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of legal matters by their counsel, including the validity of the shares, and other conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriter of officer's certificates and legal opinions. The underwriter reserves the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

Commissions and Discounts

The underwriter is purchasing the shares of common stock from the selling stockholders at \$50.69 per share (representing approximately \$143,200,061 aggregate proceeds to the selling stockholders). The underwriter may offer the shares of common stock from time to time for sale in one or more transactions on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, in the over-the-counter market, through negotiated transactions or otherwise at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices. In connection with the sale of the shares of common stock offered hereby, the underwriter may be deemed to have received compensation in the form of underwriting discounts. The underwriter may effect such transactions by selling shares of common stock to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriter and / or purchasers of shares of common stock for whom they may act as agents or to whom they may sell as principal.

We estimate expenses payable by us in connection with this offering will be approximately \$0.3 million.

No Sales of Similar Securities

We, the selling stockholders (other than selling stockholders who will not own any of our common stock following this offering), certain other stockholders and our executive officers and directors have agreed not to sell or transfer any common stock or securities convertible into, exchangeable for, exercisable for, or repayable with common stock, for 45 days after the date of this prospectus supplement without first obtaining the written consent of the underwriter. Specifically, we and these other persons have agreed, with certain limited exceptions, not to directly or indirectly:

sell, offer to sell, contract to sell or lend, effect any short sale or establish or increase a put equivalent position within the meaning of Rule 16a-1(h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the

Exchange Act, or liquidate or decrease any call equivalent position within the meaning of Rule 16a-1(b) of the Exchange Act, pledge, hypothecate or grant any security interest in, or in any other way transfer or dispose of (i) any shares of our common stock or (ii) any options or warrants or other rights to acquire shares of our common stock or any securities exchangeable or exercisable for or convertible into shares of our common stock, or to acquire other securities or rights ultimately exchangeable or exercisable for or convertible into shares of our common stock that are currently or hereafter owned either of record or beneficially;

S-13

Table of Contents

enter into any swap, hedge or similar arrangement or agreement that transfers, in whole or in part, the economic risk of ownership of shares of our common stock, regardless of whether any such transaction is to be settled in securities, in cash or otherwise;

make any demand for, or exercise any right with respect to, the registration under the Securities Act of the offer and sale of any shares of our common stock, or cause to be filed a registration statement, prospectus or prospectus supplement (or an amendment or supplement thereto) with respect any such registration; or

publicly announce an intention to do any of the foregoing.

This lock-up provision applies to common stock and to securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for or repayable with common stock. It also applies to common stock owned now or acquired later by the person executing the agreement or for which the person executing the agreement later acquires the power of disposition. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we may issue shares or options to purchase shares, or issue shares upon exercise of options or warrants, pursuant to any stock option, stock bonus or other stock plan, arrangement or agreement described in this prospectus supplement.

With respect to the selling stockholders and our executive officers and directors (each a locked up person), the foregoing restrictions will not apply to (i) the sale of the common stock in this offering (if applicable), (ii) the transfer of common stock to such locked up person s affiliates or direct or indirect stockholders, members and partners and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, or to any investment fund or other entity controlled or managed by, or under the common control or management with, the locked up person, *provided* that such affiliate, partner, former partner, member, former member, investment fund or other entity controlled or managed by, or under the common control or management with, the locked up person agrees to be bound in writing by the restrictions set forth in the lock-up and *provided, further*, that no filing under Section 16 of the Exchange Act is required or voluntarily made in connection with any such transfer, (iii) the establishment of a new trading plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act for the transfer of shares, provided that such plan does not provide for the transfer of shares during the lock-up period and no public announcement or filing under the Exchange Act, if any, is required of or voluntarily made by or on behalf of the undersigned or us regarding the establishment of such plan, or (iv) the establishment of a tax planning agreement for the transfer of shares, provided that such agreement does not provide for the transfer of shares during the lock-up period and no public announcement or filing under the Exchange Act, if any, is required of or voluntarily made by or on behalf of the undersigned or us regarding the establishment of such agreement. In addition, the foregoing restrictions shall not apply to the transfer of common stock or related securities by gift, or by will or intestate succession to a family member or to a trust whose beneficiaries consist exclusively of one or more of the locked up person and/or a family member; *provided, however*, that in any such case, it shall be a condition to such transfer that (a) each transferee executes and delivers to the underwriter an agreement in form and substance satisfactory to the underwriter stating that such transferee is receiving and holding such shares and/or related securities subject to the provisions of the lock-up and agrees not to sell or offer to sell such shares and/or related securities, engage in any swap or engage in any other activities restricted under the lock-up except in accordance with the lock-up (as if such transferee had been an original signatory to the lock-up), and (b) prior to the expiration of the lock-up period, no public disclosure or filing under the Exchange Act by any party to the transfer (donor, donee, transferor or transferee) shall be required, or made voluntarily, reporting a reduction in beneficial ownership of shares in connection with such transfer.

In addition, the foregoing restrictions shall not apply to sales, transfers and dispositions of up to 100,000 shares in the aggregate under a trading plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 established on March 17, 2017 by the Halcyon Trust.

The underwriter, in its sole discretion, may release the common stock and other securities subject to the lock-up restrictions described above in whole or in part at any time with or without notice.

S-14

Table of Contents

NASDAQ Global Select Market Listing

The shares are listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol ACHC.

Short Positions

In connection with the offering, the underwriter may purchase and sell our common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, purchases on the open market to cover positions created by short sales and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriter of a greater number of shares than they are required to purchase in the offering and a short position represents the amount of such sales that have not been covered by subsequent purchases. The underwriter may cover any covered short position by purchasing shares in the open market. Stabilizing transactions consist of various bids for or purchases of common stock made by the underwriter in the open market prior to the completion of the offering.

Similar to other purchase transactions, the underwriter's purchases to cover the syndicate short sales may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of our common stock. As a result, the price of our common stock may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. The underwriter may conduct these transactions on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

Neither we nor the underwriter make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of our common stock. In addition, neither we nor the underwriter make any representation that the underwriter will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Passive Market Making

In connection with this offering, the underwriter may engage in passive market making transactions in the common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market in accordance with Rule 103 of Regulation M under the Exchange Act during a period before the commencement of offers or sales of common stock and extending through the completion of distribution. A passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid of that security. However, if all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, that bid must then be lowered when specified purchase limits are exceeded. Passive market making may cause the price of our common stock to be higher than the price that otherwise would exist in the open market in the absence of those transactions. The underwriter is not required to engage in passive market making and may end passive market making activities at any time.

Electronic Distribution

In connection with the offering, the underwriter may distribute prospectuses by electronic means, such as e-mail. In addition, the underwriter may facilitate Internet distribution for this offering to certain of their Internet subscription customers. Each such underwriter may allocate a limited number of shares for sale to its online brokerage customers. An electronic prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is available on the Internet web site maintained by each such underwriter. Other than this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, the information on each underwriter's web site is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

Conflicts of Interest

The underwriter and its affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us or our affiliates. The underwriter has received, or may in the future receive, customary fees and commissions for these transactions.

S-15

Table of Contents

In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the underwriter and its affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates. Affiliates of the underwriter are lenders under our Amended and Restated Senior Credit Facility.

The underwriter and its affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State), with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State, no offer of shares may be made to the public in that Relevant Member State other than:

- A. to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;
- B. to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the underwriters; or
- C. in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of shares shall require the Company or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive and each person who initially acquires any shares or to whom any offer is made will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed to and with the underwriter and the Company that it is a qualified investor within the meaning of the law in that Relevant Member State implementing Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive.

In the case of any shares being offered to a financial intermediary as that term is used in Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, each such financial intermediary will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that the shares acquired by it in the offer have not been acquired on a non-discretionary basis on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in circumstances which may give rise to an offer of any shares to the public other than their offer or resale in a Relevant Member State to qualified investors as so defined or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the underwriter has been obtained to each such proposed offer or resale.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of shares to the public in relation to any shares in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase shares, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State, the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including by Directive 2010/73/EU), and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member State.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

In addition, in the United Kingdom, this document is being distributed only to, and is directed only at, and any offer subsequently made may only be directed at persons who are qualified investors (as defined in the Prospectus Directive) (i) who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Order), and/or (ii) who are high net worth companies (or persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated) falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons) or otherwise in circumstances which have not resulted and will not result in an offer to the public of the shares in the United Kingdom within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

S-16

Table of Contents

Any person in the United Kingdom that is not a relevant person should not act or rely on the information included in this document or use it as basis for taking any action. In the United Kingdom, any investment or investment activity that this document relates to may be made or taken exclusively by relevant persons.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada

The shares may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 Prospectus Exemptions or subsection 73.3(1) of the Securities Act (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. Any resale of the shares must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

The shares have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold in Hong Kong, by means of any document, other than (a) to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong and any rules made under that Ordinance; or (b) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus as defined in the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32) of Hong Kong or which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of that Ordinance. No advertisement, invitation or document relating to the shares has been or may be issued or has been or may be in the possession of any person for the purposes of issue, whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere, which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public of Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore

This prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of shares may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the shares be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the SFA), (ii) to a relevant person pursuant to Section 275(1), or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA, or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

S-17

Table of Contents

Where the shares are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is:

(a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or
a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an individual who is an accredited investor,

securities (as defined in Section 239(1) of the SFA) of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferred within six months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the shares pursuant to an offer made under Section 275 of the SFA except:

(a) to an institutional investor or to a relevant person defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA, or to any person arising from an offer referred to in Section 275(1A) or Section 276(4)(i)(B) of the SFA; where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer;

where the transfer is by operation of law;

as specified in Section 276(7) of the SFA; or

as specified in Regulation 32 of the Securities and Futures (Offers of Investments) (Shares and Debentures) Regulations 2005 of Singapore

Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan

The shares have not been and will not be registered pursuant to Article 4, Paragraph 1 of the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act. Accordingly, none of the shares nor any interest therein may be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to or for the benefit of a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan in effect at the relevant time.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Australia

This prospectus supplement:

does not constitute a product disclosure document or a prospectus under Chapter 6D.2 of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) (the Corporations Act);

has not been, and will not be, lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), as a disclosure document for the purposes of the Corporations Act and does not purport to include the information required of a disclosure document under Chapter 6D.2 of the Corporations Act;

does not constitute or involve a recommendation to acquire, an offer or invitation for issue or sale, an offer or invitation to arrange the issue or sale, or an issue or sale, of interests to a retail client (as defined in section 761G of the Corporations Act and applicable regulations) in Australia; and

may only be provided in Australia to select investors who are able to demonstrate that they fall within one or more of the categories of investors, or Exempt Investors, available under section 708 of the Corporations Act.

The shares may not be directly or indirectly offered for subscription or purchased or sold, and no invitations to subscribe for or buy the shares may be issued, and no draft or definitive offering memorandum, advertisement

S-18

Table of Contents

or other offering material relating to any shares may be distributed in Australia, except where disclosure to investors is not required under Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act or is otherwise in compliance with all applicable Australian laws and regulations. By submitting an application for the shares, you represent and warrant to us that you are an Exempt Investor.

As any offer of shares under this document will be made without disclosure in Australia under Chapter 6D.2 of the Corporations Act, the offer of those securities for resale in Australia within 12 months may, under section 707 of the Corporations Act, require disclosure to investors under Chapter 6D.2 if none of the exemptions in section 708 applies to that resale. By applying for the shares you undertake to us that you will not, for a period of 12 months from the date of issue of the shares, offer, transfer, assign or otherwise alienate those securities to investors in Australia except in circumstances where disclosure to investors is not required under Chapter 6D.2 of the Corporations Act or where a compliant disclosure document is prepared and lodged with ASIC.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Korea

The shares have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Investments Services and Capital Markets Act of Korea and the decrees and regulations thereunder (the FSCMA), and the shares have been and will be offered in Korea as a private placement under the FSCMA. None of the shares may be offered, sold or delivered directly or indirectly, or offered or sold to any person for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Korea or to any resident of Korea except pursuant to the applicable laws and regulations of Korea, including the FSCMA and the Foreign Exchange Transaction Law of Korea and the decrees and regulations thereunder (the FETL). Furthermore, the purchaser of the shares shall comply with all applicable regulatory requirements (including but not limited to requirements under the FETL) in connection with the purchase of the shares. By the purchase of the shares, the relevant holder thereof will be deemed to represent and warrant that if it is in Korea or is a resident of Korea, it purchased the shares pursuant to the applicable laws and regulations of Korea.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland

The shares may not be publicly offered in Switzerland and will not be listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (SIX) or on any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. This document does not constitute a prospectus within the meaning of, and has been prepared without regard to the disclosure standards for issuance prospectuses under art. 652a or art. 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations or the disclosure standards for listing prospectuses under art. 27 ff. of the SIX Listing Rules or the listing rules of any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the shares or the offering may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the offering, the Company, the shares have been or will be filed with or approved by any Swiss regulatory authority. In particular, this document will not be filed with, and the offer of shares will not be supervised by, the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA (FINMA), and the offer of shares has not been and will not be authorized under the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes (CISA). The investor protection afforded to acquirers of interests in collective investment schemes under the CISA does not extend to acquirers of shares.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC)

This prospectus supplement relates to an Exempt Offer in accordance with the Markets Rules 2012 of the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA). This document is intended for distribution only to persons of a type specified in the Markets Rules 2012 of the DFSA. It must not be delivered to, or relied on by, any other person. The DFSA has no

responsibility for reviewing or verifying any documents in connection with Exempt Offers. The DFSA has not approved this prospectus supplement nor taken steps to verify the information set forth herein and has no responsibility for this document. The securities to which this document relates may be illiquid

S-19

Table of Contents

and/or subject to restrictions on their resale. Prospective purchasers of the securities offered should conduct their own due diligence on the securities. If you do not understand the contents of this document you should consult an authorized financial advisor.

In relation to its use in the DIFC, this document is strictly private and confidential and is being distributed to a limited number of investors and must not be provided to any person other than the original recipient, and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. The interests in the securities may not be offered or sold directly or indirectly to the public in the DIFC.

S-20

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the common stock being offered by this prospectus supplement will be passed upon by Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP, Nashville, Tennessee. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for affiliates of WCP LLC, as selling stockholders, by Kirkland & Ellis LLP (a partnership that includes professional associations), Chicago, Illinois. Certain partners of Kirkland & Ellis LLP are partners in a partnership that is an investor in one or more investment funds affiliated with WCP LLC. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Bain Capital Entities, as selling stockholders, by Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. Ropes & Gray LLP and some of its attorneys are limited partners in RGIP, LP, which is a direct investor in Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc. and is also an investor in certain investment funds affiliated with Bain Capital Investors, LLC. RGIP, LP directly and indirectly owns less than 1% of our common stock and is a selling stockholder in this offering. Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, New York, New York, is counsel to the underwriter in connection with this offering.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc., appearing in Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.'s Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the effectiveness of Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016 (excluding the internal control over financial reporting of Priory Group No. 1 Limited, Serenity Knolls, TrustPoint Hospital and Pocono Mountain Recovery Center), have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in its reports thereon, which as to the report on the effectiveness of Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting contains an explanatory paragraph describing the above referenced exclusion of Priory Group No. 1 Limited, Serenity Knolls, TrustPoint Hospital and Pocono Mountain Recovery Center from the scope of such firm's audit of internal control over financial reporting, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements have been incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus supplement constitutes a part of a registration statement on Form S-3 we filed with the SEC under the Securities Act. This prospectus supplement does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement and exhibits thereto, and statements included in this prospectus supplement as to the content of any contract or other document referred to are not necessarily complete. For further information, please review the registration statement and the exhibits filed with the registration statement, and the documents that we reference under the caption **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference**.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information that we file at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information concerning the operation of the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings, including the complete registration statement of which this prospectus supplement is a part, are also available to the public at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

We make available free of charge through our website, which you can find at www.acadiahealthcare.com, our Annual Reports 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(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practical after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. The information on our website is not incorporated into or part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

S-21

Table of Contents

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus supplement, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement is deemed to be part of this prospectus supplement, except for any information superseded by information contained directly in this prospectus supplement or contained in another document filed with the SEC in the future which itself is incorporated into this prospectus supplement.

We are incorporating by reference the following documents, which we have previously filed with the SEC:

- (1) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016;
- (2) our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2017 and June 30, 2017;
- (3) our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 10, 2017 and May 25, 2017;
- (4) the information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 from our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on April 13, 2017; and
- (5) a description of our capital stock as set forth in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A, filed on October 31, 2011.

We incorporate by reference any documents filed by us in accordance with Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus supplement and prior to termination of the offering made by this prospectus supplement (other than, in each case, information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K, unless expressly stated otherwise therein).

Any statement incorporated herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement.

We will provide without charge to each person to whom this prospectus supplement is delivered, upon written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement. Requests for documents should be submitted in writing to Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc., 6100 Tower Circle, Suite 1000, Franklin, Tennessee 37067, Attention: Chief Financial Officer. Our telephone number at that address is (615) 861-6000. Our website is at www.acadiahealthcare.com. Information available on our website does not constitute part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.

Common Stock

We may from time to time offer shares of our common stock covered by this prospectus. We may offer our common stock in amounts, at prices and on terms set forth in an applicable prospectus supplement to this prospectus at the time of offering. In addition, selling stockholders to be named in a prospectus supplement may offer and sell from time to time shares of our common stock in such amounts and on such terms as set forth in a prospectus supplement.

We and/or any selling stockholders may offer and sell shares of our common stock to or through one or more agents, dealers or underwriters, directly to purchasers, or through a combination of these methods on a continuous or delayed basis. We and/or any selling stockholders reserve the right to accept, and together with our agents, dealers and underwriters reserve the right to reject, in whole or in part, any proposed purchase of our common stock to be made directly or through agents, dealers or underwriters. If any agents, dealers or underwriters are involved in the sale of our common stock, their names, and any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement with, between or among them will be set forth, or will be calculable from the information set forth, in an applicable prospectus supplement. See Plan of Distribution.

Our net proceeds from the sale by us of our common stock also will be set forth in the relevant prospectus supplement. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of our common stock by selling stockholders.

No common stock offered by this prospectus may be sold without delivery of an applicable prospectus supplement describing the method and specific terms of the offering. Any applicable prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus.

You should read this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in our common stock.

Our shares trade on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol ACHC. On June 8, 2017, the last reported sale price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$44.01 per share.

Investing in shares of our common stock involves substantial risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 3 of this prospectus, as well as the Risk Factors incorporated by reference herein from our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and other reports and information that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is June 9, 2017.

Table of ContentsTABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE</u>	2
<u>THE COMPANY</u>	2
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	4
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK</u>	6
<u>SELLING STOCKHOLDERS</u>	11
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	11
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	14
<u>EXPERTS</u>	14
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	14
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u>	15

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of an automatic shelf registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, as a well-known seasoned issuer as such term is defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act. Under the automatic shelf registration process, our common stock described in this prospectus may be sold, over time and at any time, in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides a general description of our common stock that we or selling stockholders may offer. As allowed by SEC rules, this prospectus does not contain all of the information you can find in the registration statement or the exhibits to the registration statement. Each time our common stock is sold under this prospectus, we will provide an applicable prospectus supplement that will contain information about the method and specific terms of that offering. Any applicable prospectus supplement and/or any applicable free writing prospectus may add, change or update information contained in this prospectus, and any statement that we make in this prospectus that is inconsistent with a statement made in any applicable prospectus supplement or applicable free writing prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded by such prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus. Before purchasing any shares of our common stock, you should read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any applicable free writing prospectus together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information** and **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference**.

Neither we nor the selling stockholders have authorized anyone to provide any information other than that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us or to which we have referred you. Neither we nor the selling stockholders take any responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any applicable free writing prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to purchase, the common stock offered by this prospectus in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement, any applicable free writing prospectus or any documents incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of the applicable document. Our business, cash flows, condition (financial or otherwise), liquidity, prospects and/or results of operations may have changed since those dates.

Edgar Filing: Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc. - Form 424B7

In this prospectus, unless the context requires otherwise, (i) references to Acadia, the Company, we, us and our to Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc., together with its consolidated subsidiaries and (ii) references to selling stockholder or selling stockholders include donees, pledgees, transferees or other successors-in-interest selling shares of common stock received from the selling stockholders as a gift, pledge, partnership distribution or other transfer after the date of this prospectus.

Table of Contents

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

This prospectus contains and incorporates by reference translations of amounts denominated in British Pounds Sterling into United States, or U.S., dollars at specific rates solely for the convenience of the potential investor. We make no representation that any amounts denominated in either British Pounds Sterling or U.S. dollars could have been, or could be, converted into either British Pounds Sterling or U.S. dollars, as applicable, at any particular rate, at the rates stated herein or therein, or at all.

THE COMPANY

We are the leading publicly traded pure-play provider of behavioral healthcare services, with operations in the U.S. and the United Kingdom, or the U.K. As of March 31, 2017, we operated a network of 575 behavioral healthcare facilities with approximately 17,200 beds in 39 states, the U.K. and Puerto Rico.

Our inpatient facilities offer a wide range of inpatient behavioral healthcare services for children, adolescents and adults. We offer these services through a combination of acute inpatient psychiatric and specialty facilities and residential treatment centers, or RTCs. Our acute inpatient psychiatric and specialty facilities provide the most intensive level of care, including 24-hour skilled nursing observation and care, daily interventions and oversight by a psychiatrist and intensive, highly-coordinated treatment by a physician-led team of mental health professionals. Our RTCs offer longer-term treatment programs primarily for children and adolescents with long-standing chronic behavioral health problems. Our RTCs provide physician-led, multi-disciplinary treatments that address the overall medical, psychiatric, social and academic needs of the patient.

Our outpatient community-based services provide therapeutic treatment to children and adolescents who have a clinically defined emotional, psychiatric or chemical dependency disorder while enabling patients to remain at home and within their community. Many patients who participate in community-based programs have transitioned out of a residential facility or have a disorder that does not require placement in a facility that provides 24-hour care.

In the U.K., we provide inpatient services through a variety of facilities, including mental health hospitals, clinics, care homes, schools, colleges and children's homes. In addition to these services, we also operate a U.K. division that leverages on our clinical knowledge to provide Employee Assistance Programs to organizations.

Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc. is a Delaware corporation. On May 13, 2011, we converted from a Delaware limited liability company (Acadia Healthcare Company, LLC) to a Delaware corporation (Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.) in accordance with Delaware law. Our principal executive offices are located at 6100 Tower Circle, Suite 1000, Franklin, Tennessee 37067, and our telephone number is (615) 861-6000. Our website is <http://www.acadiahealthcare.com>. The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any applicable free writing prospectus and is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement, any applicable free writing prospectus or any other document that we file with the SEC.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in shares of our common stock involves substantial risks. Before purchasing any shares of our common stock, you should carefully consider the risk factors incorporated by reference into this prospectus from our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, our subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and the other reports and information that we file with the SEC, including any risk factors and other information contained in any applicable prospectus supplement and/or applicable free writing prospectus. In particular, please see the risk factors described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. The risks and uncertainties that we have described are not the only ones facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also affect us. The occurrence of any of these risks could materially and adversely impact our business, cash flows, condition (financial or otherwise), liquidity, prospects and/or results of operations. Please also refer to the section below entitled Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.

Table of Contents

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus contains and incorporates by reference forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include any statements that address future results or occurrences. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, might, will, would, should, could or the negative thereof. Generally, words anticipate, believe, continue, expect, intend, estimate, project, plan and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. In particular, statements about our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance contain forward-looking statements.

We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections. While we believe these expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections are reasonable, such forward-looking statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside of our control, which could cause our actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from any results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These risks, uncertainties and other factors include, but are not limited to:

our significant indebtedness, our ability to meet our debt obligations, and our ability to incur substantially more debt;

difficulties in successfully integrating the operations of acquired facilities, including those acquired in the acquisition of Priory Group No. 1 Limited, or realizing the potential benefits and synergies of our acquisitions and joint ventures;

our ability to implement our business strategies in the U.S. and the U.K. and adapt to the regulatory and business environment in the U.K.;

potential difficulties operating our business in light of political and economic instability in the U.K. and globally following the referendum in the U.K. on June 23, 2016, in which voters approved an exit from the European Union, or Brexit;

the impact of fluctuations in foreign exchange rates, including the devaluations of the British pound relative to the U.S. dollar following the Brexit vote;

the impact of payments received from the government and third-party payors on our revenue and results of operations including the significant dependence of our U.K. facilities on payments received from the National Health Service, or the NHS;

the occurrence of patient incidents, which could result in negative media coverage, adversely affect the price of our securities and result in incremental regulatory burdens and governmental investigations;

our future cash flow and earnings;

our restrictive covenants, which may restrict our business and financing activities;

our ability to make payments on our financing arrangements;

the impact of the economic and employment conditions in the U.S. and the U.K. on our business and future results of operations;

compliance with laws and government regulations;

the impact of claims brought against us and our facilities;

the impact of governmental investigations, regulatory actions and whistleblower lawsuits;

the impact of healthcare reform in the U.S. and abroad, including the potential repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act;

the impact of our highly competitive industry on patient volumes;

Table of Contents

our ability to recruit and retain quality psychiatrists and other physicians;

the impact of competition for staffing on our labor costs and profitability;

the impact of increases to our labor costs;

our dependence on key management personnel, key executives and local facility management personnel;

our acquisition, joint venture and de novo strategies, which expose us to a variety of operational and financial risks, as well as legal and regulatory risks;

the impact of state efforts to regulate the construction or expansion of healthcare facilities on our ability to operate and expand our operations;

our potential inability to extend leases at expiration;

the impact of controls designed to reduce inpatient services on our revenues;

the impact of different interpretations of accounting principles on our results of operations or financial condition;

the impact of environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, especially in locations where we have concentrated operations;

the impact of an increase in uninsured and underinsured patients or the deterioration in the collectability of the accounts of such patients on our results of operations;

the risk of a cyber-security incident and any resulting violation of laws and regulations regarding information privacy or other negative impact;

the impact of laws and regulations relating to privacy and security of patient health information and standards for electronic transactions;

our ability to cultivate and maintain relationships with referral sources;

the impact of a change in the mix of our U.S. and U.K. earnings, adverse changes in our effective tax rate and adverse developments in tax laws generally;

failure to maintain effective internal control over financial reporting;

the impact of fluctuations in our operating results, quarter to quarter earnings and other factors on the price of our securities;

the impact of the trend for insurance companies and managed care organizations to enter into sole source contracts on our ability to obtain patients;

the impact of value-based purchasing programs on our revenue; and

those risks and uncertainties described from time to time in our filings with the SEC.

This list of risks and uncertainties, however, is only a summary of some of the most important factors and is not intended to be exhaustive. Given these risks and uncertainties, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties may cause our actual future results to be materially different than those expressed in our forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are made only as of the date of this prospectus. We do not undertake and specifically decline any obligation to update any such statements or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any such statements to reflect future events or developments. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us, or to persons acting on our behalf, are expressly qualified in their entirety by these cautionary statements.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we indicate otherwise in an applicable prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from our sale of common stock offered by this prospectus for general corporate purposes, which may include, but not be limited to, working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, refinancing of indebtedness and repurchases or redemptions of securities. Any allocation of the net proceeds of an offering of our shares of common stock to a specific purpose will be determined at the time of such offering and will be described in an applicable prospectus supplement to this prospectus.

We will not receive any proceeds from sales of common stock by the selling stockholders.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, provides that our authorized capital stock consists of 180,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value. As of May 31, 2017, there were 87,821,519 shares of our common stock and no shares of our preferred stock issued and outstanding.

This section summarizes the general terms of our common stock. The summaries in this section do not describe every aspect of our common stock. When evaluating our common stock, you should also refer to all of the provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws and the Delaware General Corporation Law, as amended, or DGCL. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws are incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Terms of Common Stock

Voting Rights

Each share of common stock entitles the holder to one vote with respect to each matter presented to our stockholders on which the holders of common stock are entitled to vote. Our common stock votes as a single class on all matters relating to the election and removal of directors on our board of directors and as provided by law. Holders of our common stock do not have cumulative voting rights. Except in respect of matters relating to the election of directors, or as otherwise provided in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation or required by law, all matters to be voted on by our stockholders must be approved by a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting at which a quorum is present and entitled to vote on the subject matter. The holders of a majority of the outstanding voting power of all shares of capital stock entitled to vote, present in person or represented by proxy, constitutes a quorum at all meetings of our stockholders. In the case of the election of directors in uncontested director elections, in order to be elected, a majority of the votes cast must be in favor of a nominee's election. In contested elections, directors must be elected by a plurality of the votes cast.

Dividend Rights

The holders of our outstanding shares of common stock are entitled to receive dividends, if any, as may be declared from time to time by our board of directors out of legally available funds. Our ability to pay dividends on our common stock will be limited by restrictions on the ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends or make distributions to us, including restrictions under the terms of the agreements governing our indebtedness.

Liquidation Rights

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in our assets that are legally available for distribution to

Table of Contents

stockholders after payment of our debts and other liabilities. If we have any preferred stock outstanding at such time, holders of the preferred stock may be entitled to distribution and/or liquidation preferences. In either such case, we must pay the applicable distribution to the holders of preferred stock, if any, before we may pay distributions to the holders of our common stock.

Other Rights

Our stockholders have no preemptive, conversion or other rights to subscribe for additional shares. All outstanding shares, including all shares offered by this prospectus, are validly issued fully paid and nonassessable. The rights, preferences and privileges of the holders of our common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of shares of any series of our preferred stock that our board of directors may designate and issue in the future.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol `ACHC` .

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Broadridge Corporate Issuer Solutions, Inc.

Registration Rights

Effective April 1, 2011, Acadia Healthcare Holdings, LLC, or Acadia Holdings, entered into an amended and restated registration rights agreement, or the Initial Registration Rights Agreement, with the holders of substantially all of its equity securities at the time pursuant to which such holders have the right to demand the registration of all or a portion of their securities and have certain piggyback registration rights, subject to certain limitations. In connection with the consummation of our acquisition of PHC, Inc., or PHC, on November 1, 2011, Waud Capital Partners, or WCP, and the other members of Acadia Holdings caused the dissolution of Acadia Holdings and the distribution of the common stock held by Acadia Holdings to its members. In connection with such dissolution and distribution, we assumed Acadia Holdings' rights and obligations under the Initial Registration Rights Agreement.

Concurrently with the execution of the merger agreement, or the CRC Merger Agreement, related to our acquisition of CRC Health Group, Inc., or CRC, we entered into a second amended and restated registration rights agreement, as amended, or the Former Registration Rights Agreement, with certain members of our current and former management, or the Management Investors, WCP and investment funds affiliated with Bain Capital Partners, LLC, or collectively, Bain Capital. The Former Registration Rights Agreement amended and replaced the Initial Registration Rights Agreement. The Former Registration Rights Agreement granted certain stockholders demand registration rights for registered offerings and piggyback registration rights with respect to our securities. All expenses incident to registrations were required to be borne by us.

Concurrently with the execution of the sale and purchase deed related to our acquisition of Priory, we entered into a third amended and restated registration rights agreement, or the New Registration Rights Agreement, with the Management Investors, WCP, Bain Capital and investment funds affiliated with Advent International Corporation. The New Registration Rights Agreement amended and replaced the Former Registration Rights Agreement. The New Registration Rights Agreement grants certain stockholders demand registration rights for registered offerings and piggyback registration rights with respect to our securities. All expenses incident to registrations are required to be borne by us.

Stockholders Agreement

In connection with the consummation of our acquisition of PHC on November 1, 2011, we entered into a stockholders agreement, or the Former Stockholders Agreement, with certain members of our current and former

Table of Contents

management and WCP. Concurrently with the execution of the CRC Merger Agreement, we entered into an amended and restated stockholders agreement, or the New Stockholders Agreement with the Management Investors, WCP and Bain Capital. The New Stockholders Agreement amended and replaced the Former Stockholders Agreement and became effective on February 11, 2015 in connection with the closing of our acquisition of CRC.

Certain covenants and consent rights in favor of WCP contained in the Former Stockholders Agreement were removed in the New Stockholders Agreement or have since expired. The New Stockholders Agreement granted WCP certain rights to designate a nominee for election to our board of directors and certain consent rights over transfer of shares by Management Investors that have expired. The New Stockholders Agreement includes a standstill provision that prevents Bain Capital from acquiring additional shares of our Common Stock, mounting a proxy contest, seeking to enter into a merger agreement, taking us private or taking certain other actions involving the sale or purchase of a substantial portion of our securities or debt.

Lock-Ups. The New Stockholders Agreement provides that no Management Investor will take any of the following actions from the date the Company gives notice to the Management Investors that a preliminary or final prospectus has been circulated for a public offering and during the 60 days following the date of the final prospectus for such public offering: (i) offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any of the Company's or its subsidiaries' equity securities or any securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for such securities; (ii) enter into any transaction which would have the same effect as described in clause (i); (iii) enter into any swap, hedge or other arrangement that transfers, in whole or part, any of the economic consequences or ownership of any of the securities described in clause (i); or (iv) publicly disclose the intention to enter into any transaction described in clauses (i), (ii) or (iii). The foregoing restrictions do not apply to transactions made in the subject public offering and those to which the underwriters managing such public offering agree in writing.

Antitakeover Effects of Delaware Law and Acadia's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws contain provisions that may delay, defer or discourage another party from acquiring control of us. We expect that these provisions, which are summarized below, will discourage coercive takeover practices or inadequate takeover bids. These provisions are also designed to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with our board of directors, which we believe may result in an improvement of the terms of any such acquisition in favor of our stockholders. However, they also give our board of directors the power to discourage acquisitions that some stockholders may favor.

Undesignated Preferred Stock

The ability to authorize undesignated preferred stock will make it possible for our board of directors to issue preferred stock with super voting, special approval, dividend or other rights or preferences on a discriminatory basis that could impede the success of any attempt to acquire us. These and other provisions may have the effect of deferring, delaying or discouraging hostile takeovers, or changes in our control or our management.

Classified Board of Directors

In accordance with our amended and restated certificate of incorporation our board of directors is divided into three classes, with each class serving three-year staggered terms. In addition, under the DGCL, directors serving on a classified board of directors may only be removed from the board of directors with cause and by an affirmative vote of the majority of our common stock. These provisions may have the effect of deferring, delaying or discouraging hostile takeovers, or changes in our control or our management.

Table of Contents

Requirements for Advance Notification of Stockholder Meetings

In accordance with our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, special meetings of the stockholders may be called only upon a resolution approved by a majority of our board of directors then in office.

Requirements for Nominations and Proposals at Stockholder Meetings

Our amended and restated bylaws prohibit the conduct of any business at a special meeting other than as brought by or at the direction of our board of directors. In accordance with our amended and restated bylaws, nominations of persons for election to our board of directors may be made at a special meeting of stockholders at which directors are to be elected pursuant to the notice of meeting (1) by or at the direction of our board of directors or (2) provided that our board of directors has determined that directors will be elected at such special meeting, by any holder of our stock who (i) is a stockholder of record both at the time the notice is delivered and on the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to vote at such meeting, (ii) is entitled to vote at the meeting and upon such election, and (iii) complies with the notice procedures set forth in our amended and restated bylaws. These provisions may have the effect of deferring, delaying or discouraging hostile takeovers, or changes in our control or our management.

Stockholder Action by Written Consent

Pursuant to Section 228 of the DGCL, any action required to be taken at any annual or special meeting of our stockholders may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote if a consent or consents in writing, setting forth the action so taken, is signed by the holders of outstanding stock having not less than the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to authorize or take such action at a meeting at which all shares of our stock entitled to vote thereon were present and voted, unless the related certificate of incorporation provides otherwise. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that any action required or permitted to be taken by our stockholders may be effected at a duly called annual or special meeting of our stockholders and may not be effected by consent in writing by such stockholders.

Business Combinations with Interested Stockholders

In accordance with our amended and restated certificate of incorporation we are not subject to Section 203 of the DGCL, an anti-takeover law. In general, Section 203 prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging in a business combination, such as a merger, with a person or group owning 15% or more of the corporation's voting stock for a period of three years following the date the person became an interested stockholder, unless (with certain exceptions) the business combination or the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder is approved in a prescribed manner. Accordingly, we will not be subject to any anti-takeover effects of Section 203 of the DGCL. However, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation contains provisions that have the same effect as Section 203, except that they provide that both Waud Capital Partners, any investment fund managed by Waud Capital Partners and any of their respective Affiliates and Associates (each as defined in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation) with whom any of the foregoing are acting as a group or in concert for the purpose of acquiring, holding, voting or disposing shares of our stock and any persons to whom Waud Capital Partners sells at least five percent (5%) of our outstanding voting stock will be deemed to have been approved by our board of directors, and thereby not subject to the restrictions set forth in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation that have the same effect as Section 203 of the DGCL.

Requirements for Amendments to Acadia's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws

The DGCL provides that in order to amend the certificate of incorporation, the board of directors must adopt a resolution that then must be approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the

Table of Contents

outstanding stock entitled to vote thereon, unless a greater vote is specified in the certificate of incorporation, and subject to any additional vote required by any series of preferred stock. In accordance with our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, the articles relating to the following topics may only be amended, altered, changed or repealed by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the voting power of all of our outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, other than shares of any Interested Stockholder (as defined in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation): Board of Directors (Article Six); Limitation of Director Liability (Article Seven); Limitations on Written Consent/Special Meetings (Article Eight); Business Combinations (Article Ten); Poison Pill (Article Eleven); Amendments (Article Twelve); Forum Selection (Article Thirteen); and Severability (Article Fourteen). Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation also provides that Article Nine, which deals with corporate opportunity, may only be amended, altered or repealed by a vote of 80% of the voting power of all of our shares of common stock then outstanding, voting together as a single class. See Corporate Opportunity.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that our amended and restated bylaws may be adopted, amended, altered or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of our board of directors. In addition, our bylaws may be adopted, amended, altered or repealed by the affirmative vote of the stockholders having at least a majority of the voting power of all of the then outstanding shares of our capital stock, voting together as a single class.

Corporate Opportunity

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that the doctrine of corporate opportunity does not apply against Waud Capital Partners, its affiliates, any investment fund managed by Waud Capital Partners or any of their respective portfolio companies or their respective partners, members, directors, employees, stockholders, agents or successors, in a manner that would prohibit them from investing in competing businesses or doing business with Acadia's clients or customers. If the ownership of our common stock continues to be highly concentrated, it may prevent you and other stockholders from influencing significant corporate decisions and may result in conflicts of interest that could cause our stock price to decline.

Limitation on Liability and Indemnification of Officers and Directors

In accordance with our amended and restated bylaws, we must indemnify our directors and officers to the fullest extent authorized by the DGCL and must also pay expenses incurred in defending any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition upon delivery of an undertaking, by or on behalf of an indemnified person, to repay all amounts so advanced if it should be determined ultimately that such person is not entitled to be indemnified.

We entered into indemnification agreements with each of our current directors and executive officers. These agreements require us to indemnify these individuals to the fullest extent permitted under Delaware law against liabilities that may arise by reason of their service to us, and to advance expenses incurred as a result of any proceeding against them as to which they could be indemnified.

The indemnification rights set forth above shall not be exclusive of any other right which an indemnified person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, provision of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise.

Table of Contents

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

We may register shares of common stock covered by this prospectus for re-offers and re-sales by any selling stockholders named in an applicable prospectus supplement. Because we are a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act, we may add secondary sales of shares of our common stock by any selling stockholders by filing an applicable prospectus supplement with the SEC. We may register these shares to permit selling stockholders to resell their shares when they deem appropriate. Selling stockholders may resell all, a portion or none of their shares at any time and from time to time. Selling stockholders may also sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of some or all of their shares of our common stock in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. We do not know when or in what amounts the selling stockholders may offer shares for sale under this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement. We may pay all expenses incurred with respect to the registration of the shares of common stock owned by the selling stockholders, other than underwriting fees, discounts or commissions, which will be borne by the selling stockholders. We will provide you with an applicable prospectus supplement naming the selling stockholder(s), the amount of shares to be registered and sold and any other terms of the shares of common stock being sold by the selling stockholder(s). The applicable prospectus supplement will also disclose whether any of the selling stockholders has held any position or office with, has been employed by or otherwise has had a material relationship with us during the three years prior to the date of the prospectus supplement.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell our common stock, and certain selling stockholders may sell common stock, in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

to or through agents, dealers or underwriters;

directly to one or more purchasers;

through a combination of any of these methods of sale; or

through any other methods described in a prospectus supplement.

Any prospectus supplement related to an offering of common stock will set forth the specific terms of such offering, including:

the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents, if any;

the purchase price of the common stock and the proceeds to Acadia and any selling stockholders from the sale; and

any underwriting discounts and commissions or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation.

In addition, upon being notified by a selling stockholder that a donee, pledgee, transferee or other successor-in-interest intends to sell more than 500 shares, we will, to the extent required, promptly file a supplement to this prospectus to name specifically such person as a selling stockholder.

If a dealer is used in the sale of common stock, we or the selling stockholders, if any, may sell the common stock to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the common stock to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale. The names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction will be set forth in a prospectus supplement relating to that transaction.

The underwriters, dealers and agents participating in any distribution of the common stock may be deemed to be underwriters under the Securities Act, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit

Table of Contents

realized by them on resale of the common stock may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. Additionally, because selling stockholders may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act, selling stockholders may be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act. Underwriters, dealers and agents may be entitled under agreements with us and selling stockholders to indemnification against and contribution toward certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and to reimbursement by us and the selling stockholders for certain expenses.

If so indicated in an applicable prospectus supplement, we and certain selling stockholders may authorize dealers acting as an agent to solicit offers by institutions to purchase our common stock from us or the selling stockholders at the public offering price set forth in the prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in the prospectus supplement. Each delayed delivery contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate principal amount or offering price of our common stock sold pursuant to delayed delivery contracts will not be less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in the prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom delayed delivery contracts, when authorized, may be entered into include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and other institutions, but will in all cases be subject to approval by us and the selling stockholders.

Our common stock also may be offered and sold, if so indicated in the prospectus supplement, in connection with a remarketing upon their purchase, in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to their terms, or otherwise, by one or more firms, or remarketing firms, acting as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. Any remarketing firm will be identified and the terms of its agreement, if any, with us or the selling stockholders will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Remarketing firms may be deemed to be underwriters in connection with the securities remarketed thereby. Remarketing firms may be entitled under agreements which may be entered into with us and the selling stockholders to indemnification by us against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

We may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable prospectus supplement indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell our common stock covered by this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third party may use securities pledged by us or borrowed from us or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of stock, and may use securities received from us in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of stock. The third parties in such sale transactions will be underwriters and, if not identified in this prospectus, will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement (or a post-effective amendment).

Any selling stockholders may also resell all or a portion of his, her or its shares of our common stock in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act in reliance upon Rule 144 under the Securities Act provided he, she or it meets the criteria and conforms to the requirements of that rule, Section 4(a)(1) of the Securities Act or other applicable exemptions, regardless of whether the common stock is covered by the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. Additionally, any selling stockholders may engage in hedging transactions with broker-dealers in connection with distributions of shares or otherwise. In those transactions, broker-dealers may engage in short sales of shares in the course of hedging the positions they assume with such selling stockholders. Any selling stockholders also may sell shares short and redeliver shares to close out such short positions. Any selling stockholders may also enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers which require the delivery of shares to the broker-dealer. The broker-dealer may then resell or otherwise transfer such shares pursuant to this prospectus. Any selling stockholders also may loan or pledge shares, and the borrower or pledgee may sell or otherwise transfer the shares so loaned or pledged pursuant to this prospectus. Such borrower or pledgee also may transfer those shares

to investors in our common stock or the selling stockholders common stock or in connection with the offering of other securities not covered by this prospectus.

Table of Contents

To facilitate the offering of common stock, certain persons participating in the offering may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain, or otherwise affect the price of the common stock. These may include over-allotment, stabilization, syndicate short covering transactions and penalty bids. Over-allotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which creates a short position. Stabilizing transactions involve bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Syndicate short covering transactions involve purchases of common stock in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim selling concessions from dealers when the common stock originally sold by the dealers are purchased in covering transactions to cover syndicate short positions. These transactions, if commenced, may be discontinued by the underwriters at any time.

One or more of the underwriters, dealers or agents, and/or one or more of their respective affiliates, may be a lender under our amended and restated credit agreement, as amended, and may provide other commercial banking, investment banking and financial advisory services to us and/or our subsidiaries and affiliates from time to time in the ordinary course of business for which they have received customary fees and expenses.

During such time as we may be engaged in a distribution of the common stock covered by this prospectus we are required to comply with Regulation M promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. With certain exceptions, Regulation M precludes us, any affiliated purchasers, and any broker-dealer or other person who participates in such distributing from bidding for or purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase, any security which is the subject of the distribution until the entire distribution is complete. Regulation M also restricts bids or purchases made in order to stabilize the price of a security in connection with the distribution of that security.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters with respect to the validity of the common stock being offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for us by Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP. Any underwriters, dealers or agents will be advised about other issues relating to any transaction by their own legal counsel.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc., appearing in Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.'s Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the effectiveness of Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2016 (excluding the internal control over financial reporting of Priory Group No. 1 Limited, Serenity Knolls, TrustPoint Hospital and Pocono Mountain Recovery Center), have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in its reports thereon, which as to the report on the effectiveness of Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting contains an explanatory paragraph describing the above referenced exclusion of Priory Group No. 1 Limited, Serenity Knolls, TrustPoint Hospital and Pocono Mountain Recovery Center from the scope of such firm's audit of internal control over financial reporting, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements have been incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus constitutes a part of a registration statement on Form S-3 we filed with the SEC under the Securities Act. This prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement and exhibits thereto, and statements included in this prospectus as to the content of any contract or other document referred to are not necessarily complete. For further information, please review the registration statement and the exhibits filed with the registration statement, and the documents that we reference under the caption "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference."

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information that we file at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information concerning the operation of the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings, including the complete registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, are also available to the public at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

We make available free of charge through our website, which you can find at www.acadiahealthcare.com, our Annual Reports 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(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practical after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any applicable free writing prospectus and is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement, any applicable free writing prospectus or any other document that we file with the SEC.

Table of Contents

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference into this prospectus is deemed to be part of this prospectus, except for any information superseded by information contained directly in this prospectus or contained in another document filed with the SEC in the future which itself is incorporated into this prospectus.

We are incorporating by reference the following documents, which we have previously filed with the SEC:

- (1) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016;
- (2) our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2017;
- (3) our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed May 10, 2017 and May 25, 2017;
- (4) the information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 from our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on April 13, 2017; and
- (5) a description of our capital stock as set forth in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A, filed on October 31, 2011.

We incorporate by reference any documents filed by us in accordance with Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus and prior to termination of the offering made by this prospectus (other than, in each case, information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K, unless expressly stated otherwise therein).

Any statement incorporated herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We will provide without charge to each person to whom this prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Requests for documents should be submitted in writing to Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc., 6100 Tower Circle, Suite 1000, Franklin, Tennessee 37067, Attention: Chief Financial Officer. Our telephone number at that address is (615) 861-6000. Our website is at www.acadiahealthcare.com. The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any applicable free writing prospectus and is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement, any applicable free writing prospectus or any other document that we file with the SEC.

Table of Contents

2,825,016 shares

Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.

Common Stock

Prospectus Supplement

Citigroup

August 16, 2017