

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE CORP  
Form 8-K  
September 15, 2005

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 8-K**

CURRENT REPORT

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): September 15, 2005 (September 14, 2005)

**National HealthCare Corporation**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State of Incorporation)

001-13489  
(Commission File No.)

52-2057472  
(IRS Employer  
Identification Number)

100 Vine Street  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(615) 890-2020  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

**Item 8.01. Other Events**

On September 14, 2005, National HealthCare Corporation issued a press release announcing its quarterly dividend. A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit 99 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference herein.

**SIGNATURES**

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

National HealthCare Corporation

By: /s/ Robert G. Adams

Name: Robert G. Adams

Title: President

By: /s/ Donald K. Daniel

Name: Donald K. Daniel

Title: Principal Accounting Officer

Date: September 15, 2005

### Exhibit Index

<b>Number</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
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99	Press release, dated September 14, 2005
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### EXHIBIT 99

For release: Sept. 14, 2005

Contact: Gerald Coggin, Senior VP of Corporate Relations

Phone: (615) 890-2020

## NHC to Pay 15 Cents Per Share Dividend

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -- National HealthCare Corporation (AMEX: NHC), one of the nation's oldest long-term health care companies, announced today that it will pay a quarterly dividend of 15 cents per common share to shareholders of record on Sept. 30 and payable on Dec. 1, 2005.

NHC operates for itself and third parties 74 long-term health care centers with 9,177 beds. NHC also operates 31 homecare programs, six independent living centers and assisted living centers at 22 locations. NHC's other services include managed care specialty medical units, Alzheimer's units, hospice and a rehabilitation services company. Other information about the company can be found on our web site at [www.NHCcare.com](http://www.NHCcare.com).

*Statements in this press release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. NHC cautions investors that any forward-looking statements made involve risks and uncertainties and are not guarantees of future performance. All forward-looking statements represent NHC's best judgment as of the date of this release.*

