

HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/  
Form 8-K  
February 16, 2012

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of The  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) February 16, 2012

**Health Care REIT, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**1-8923**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**34-1096634**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

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**4500 Dorr Street, Toledo, Ohio**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code (419) 247-2800**

**43615**  
(Zip Code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

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

**Item 2.02** *Results of Operations and Financial Condition.*

On February 16, 2012, Health Care REIT, Inc. (the Company) issued a press release that announced operating results for its fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2011. The press release refers to a supplemental information package that is available on the Company's website (www.hcreit.com), free of charge. Copies of the press release and supplemental information package have been furnished as Exhibits 99.1 and 99.2, respectively, to this Current Report, and are incorporated herein by reference.

The information included in this Current Report shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and shall not be incorporated by reference into any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, regardless of any general incorporation language in such filing.

**Item 9.01** *Financial Statements and Exhibits.*

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release of Health Care REIT, Inc. dated February 16, 2012.

99.2 Health Care REIT, Inc. Supplemental Information Package for the quarter ended December 31, 2011.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

HEALTH CARE REIT, INC.

By: /s/ GEORGE L. CHAPMAN  
George L. Chapman

Its: Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and  
President

Dated: February 16, 2012