

HCP, INC.
 Form 424B2
 June 26, 2015

Use these links to rapidly review the document

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)
[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)
 Registration No. 333-205241**

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Security	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share	119,687	\$(2)	\$(2)	\$(2)

(1) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, this Registration Statement shall include any additional shares that may become issuable as a result of any stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization or other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration that results in an increase in the number of HCP, Inc.'s outstanding shares of common stock.

(2) As discussed below, pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, this prospectus supplement only includes unsold securities that have been previously registered. Accordingly, there is no registration fee due in connection with this prospectus supplement.

Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the securities registered pursuant to this prospectus supplement consist of 119,687 unsold shares of common stock previously registered on a prospectus supplement dated August 5, 2014 and the prospectus dated July 24, 2012 accompanying Registration Statement No. 333-182824 (the "Prior Prospectuses"). In connection with the registration of such unsold shares of common stock on the Prior Prospectuses, we paid a registration fee of \$641.30, which will continue to be applied to such unsold securities.

Table of Contents

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
To prospectus dated June 26, 2015**

119,687 Shares

HCP, Inc.

Common Stock

This prospectus supplement is a supplement to the accompanying prospectus dated June 4, 2015 and relates to the possible issuance of up to 119,687 shares of our common stock, from time to time, to the holders of units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC, upon tender of those units in exchange for shares of our common stock that we may issue in connection with a redemption of the tendered units.

Registration of the issuance of shares of our common stock as provided in this prospectus supplement does not necessarily mean that any of the holders of units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC will exercise their redemption rights with respect to the units or that we will elect, in our sole discretion, to issue shares of our common stock to satisfy our redemption obligation instead of cash.

We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the shares of our common stock to the holders of units tendered for redemption, but we may acquire units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC if we elect to issue shares of our common stock to a holder of units upon redemption of its units.

Our common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "HCP." On June 23, 2015, the last reported sales price for our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$37.30 per share. Shares of our common stock are subject to ownership and transfer limitations that are intended to assist us in complying with the requirements to continue to qualify as a real estate investment trust, or REIT.

Investing in our common stock involves risks. See "Risk Factors" on page S-2 of this prospectus supplement and page 2 of the accompanying prospectus and the risk factors described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015, as well as the risk factors relating to our business contained in documents we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

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

The date of this prospectus supplement is June 26, 2015

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. This document may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. You should not assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of each document. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since then.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

	Page
<u>About this Prospectus Supplement</u>	<u>S-1</u>
<u>Risk Factors</u>	<u>S-2</u>
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>S-3</u>
<u>Operating Agreement</u>	<u>S-3</u>
<u>Comparison of HCP DR California II, LLC and HCP</u>	<u>S-12</u>
<u>United States Federal Income Tax Considerations of a Redemption or Exchange of Units</u>	<u>S-20</u>
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	<u>S-23</u>
<u>Validity of Common Stock</u>	<u>S-24</u>

Prospectus

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	<u>ii</u>
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	<u>ii</u>
<u>CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	<u>iv</u>
<u>SUMMARY</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND HCP'S CHARTER AND BYLAWS</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>SELLING SECURITY HOLDERS</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	<u>57</u>
<u>VALIDITY OF SECURITIES</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>EXPERTS</u>	<u>60</u>

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. This prospectus supplement also adds to, updates and changes information contained in the accompanying prospectus. If the description of the offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement. The accompanying prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using a "shelf" registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer and sell common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities or warrants, or any combination thereof, from time to time, in one or more offerings.

You should carefully read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, together with the additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information" on page ii of the accompanying prospectus in making your investment decision.

In this prospectus supplement, unless otherwise indicated herein or the context otherwise indicates, the terms "HCP," "we," "us," "our" and the "Company" refer to HCP, Inc., together with its consolidated subsidiaries; the term "units" refers to units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC; and the term "common stock" refers to shares of HCP, Inc. common stock. Unless otherwise stated, currency amounts in this prospectus supplement are stated in United States, or U.S., dollars.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Before purchasing our common stock, you should carefully consider the information under the heading "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015, as updated by our subsequent filings under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, and in the accompanying prospectus. Each of the risks described in these documents could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects, and could result in a decrease in the value of our common stock and a partial or complete loss of your investment therein.

Risks Related to the Exchange of Units for Shares of Our Common Stock

The exchange of units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC for our common stock is a taxable transaction.

The exchange of units of HCP DR California II, LLC for shares of our common stock (which may occur following the tender of such units for redemption if we elect to satisfy the redemption obligation in shares of our common stock) will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a sale of the units by the holders of such units. A holder of such units will recognize gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the fair market value of the shares of our common stock received in the exchange, plus the amount of the HCP DR California II, LLC liabilities allocable to the units being exchanged, less the holder's adjusted tax basis in the units exchanged. The recognition of any loss is subject to a number of limitations set forth in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, referred to herein as the Internal Revenue Code. It is possible that the amount of gain recognized or even the tax liability resulting from the gain could exceed the value of the shares of our common stock received upon the exchange. In addition, the ability of a holder of units to sell a substantial number of shares of our common stock in order to raise cash to pay tax liabilities associated with the exchange of units may be restricted and, as a result of stock price fluctuations, the price the holder receives for the shares of our common stock may not equal the value of the units at the time of the exchange.

An investment in our common stock is different from an investment in units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC.

If a unitholder exercises its right to redeem its units, the holder may receive cash or, at our election, shares of common stock in exchange for the units. If a unitholder tenders all of its units and receives cash, the holder will no longer have any interest in HCP DR California II, LLC or us, will not benefit from any subsequent increases in the share price of our common stock and will not receive any future distributions from HCP DR California II, LLC or us (unless the holder currently owns or acquires in the future additional shares of our common stock or additional units). If a unitholder receives shares of our common stock in exchange for its units, the holder will become one of our stockholders rather than a non-managing member in HCP DR California II, LLC. Although the nature of an investment in shares of our common stock is substantially equivalent economically to an investment in units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC, there are differences between ownership of the units and ownership of our common stock. These differences, some of which may be material to you, include:

form of organization;

management control;

voting and consent rights;

liquidity; and

federal income tax considerations.

Table of Contents

These differences are further described under "Comparison of HCP DR California II, LLC and HCP."

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement; however, we may acquire units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC if we elect to issue shares of our common stock to a holder of units upon redemption of its units.

OPERATING AGREEMENT

The following summarizes the material provisions of the operating agreement, as amended and restated, of HCP DR California II, LLC. The summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the operating agreement, as amended and restated, of HCP DR California II, LLC, which is filed as an exhibit to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed August 5, 2014.

Management

HCP DR California II, LLC is organized as a Delaware limited liability company under the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act and the terms of its operating agreement, the Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of HCP DR California II, LLC, as the same has been amended to date. HCP is the sole managing member of HCP DR California II, LLC. Generally, pursuant to the operating agreement, we have exclusive and complete responsibility and discretion in the management and control of HCP DR California II, LLC, including, subject to the restrictions discussed below, the ability to cause it to enter into major transactions such as acquisitions, dispositions, financings, and refinancings, and to manage and operate its properties. We may not be removed as the managing member of HCP DR California II, LLC, with or without cause, unless we consent to being removed. Non-managing members of HCP DR California II, LLC have no authority to transact business for HCP DR California II, LLC or participate in its management activities, except in limited circumstances described below and as required by any non-waivable provision of applicable law.

As the managing member, we may not take any action in contravention of the operating agreement, including:

taking any action that would make it impossible to carry out the ordinary business of HCP DR California II, LLC, except as otherwise provided in the operating agreement;

possessing or assigning any rights in specific property owned by HCP DR California II, LLC, other than for a HCP DR California II, LLC purpose, except as otherwise provided in the operating agreement;

taking any action that would cause a non-managing member to be subject to liability as a managing member or any other liability, except as provided in the operating agreement or by law;

entering into any agreement that would have the effect of restricting a member of HCP DR California II, LLC from exercising its right to redeem its units as provided in the operating agreement and discussed below under "Redemption Rights," or the effect of restricting HCP DR California II, LLC or us from satisfying our obligations under the operating agreement to effect such redemption, unless such member gives its prior written consent to such action; or

entering into any agreement that would have the effect of restricting HCP DR California II, LLC's ability to make distributions to its members, without the written consent of each member affected by the restriction.

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Table of Contents

The consent of the holders of a majority of the outstanding non-managing member units is required before we will be permitted to take the following extraordinary actions involving HCP DR California II, LLC, subject to limited exceptions:

the amendment, modification or termination of the operating agreement other than to reflect the permitted admission, substitution, termination or withdrawal of members or in connection with a permitted dissolution or termination of HCP DR California II, LLC;

approving or acquiescing to the transfer of all or a portion of the membership interest held by us, other than a transfer to HCP DR California II, LLC;

the admission of any additional or substitute members in HCP DR California II, LLC other than as provided in the operating agreement;

making a general assignment for the benefit of HCP DR California II, LLC's creditors, appointing or acquiescing to the appointment of a custodian for any part of the assets of HCP DR California II, LLC or instituting any proceeding for bankruptcy on behalf of HCP DR California II, LLC;

acquiring any real properties, other than the real property located in Chino Hills, or the Chino Hills Property, that is currently owned by HCP DR California II, LLC or any real property acquired by HCP DR California II, LLC in connection with a tax-free disposition of the Chino Hills Property; or

incurring any debt in violation of the operating agreement.

In addition to the above restrictions, we, as the managing member, may not amend the operating agreement or take actions without the consent of any non-managing member who would be adversely affected if such amendments or actions would, among other things:

convert a non-managing member's interest in HCP DR California II, LLC into a managing member interest;

modify the limited liability of a non-managing member;

alter the rights of a member to receive distributions or the allocation of income and loss to a member;

materially alter the right of a member to redeem its non-managing member units or receive certain make-whole payments described below; or

alter the restrictions on our ability to withdraw from, or transfer our interests in, HCP DR California II, LLC.

As managing member, we may, however, amend the operating agreement without non-managing member consent:

to reflect the issuance of additional membership interests in exchange for capital contributions of cash or property, or the admission, substitution, termination or withdrawal of members or the redemption or other reduction in the number of units outstanding as permitted by the operating agreement;

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to reflect inconsequential changes that do not adversely affect the non-managing members, cure ambiguities and make other changes not inconsistent with law or the provisions of the operating agreement;

to satisfy any requirements, conditions or guidelines contained in any governmental order or required by law;

S-4

Table of Contents

to reflect changes that are reasonably necessary for us, our affiliates or other members to maintain their status as a REIT;

to modify the manner in which capital accounts are computed; or

to add to the obligations of the managing member or to surrender any right or power granted to the managing member for the benefit of the non-managing members.

Tax Protection Period

Until the earlier of (a) June 1, 2024 or (b) such time as 80% of the units issued to the initial non-managing members of HCP DR California II, LLC have been disposed of, in taxable transactions (the "Tax Protection Period"), HCP DR California II, LLC will be required to pay to the non-managing members a make-whole payment in an amount equal to the aggregate federal, state and local income taxes incurred by the non-managing member as a result of the event, if we do any of the following, subject to limited exceptions, without the prior consent of the holders of a majority of the non-managing member units held by non-managing members:

cause HCP DR California II, LLC to merge with another entity (other than a subsidiary of HCP DR California II, LLC), sell all or substantially all of its assets (other than to a subsidiary of HCP DR California II, LLC), reclassify its outstanding equity interests, or otherwise dissolve or terminate its existence;

sell HCP DR California II, LLC's real property;

fail to keep in place certain specified loans made by us to HCP DR California II, LLC, which have been guaranteed by the initial non-managing members of HCP DR California II, LLC, unless such debt is replaced or refinanced with replacement indebtedness in accordance with the operating agreement; or

fail to provide the opportunity to each initial non-managing member of HCP DR California II, LLC to guarantee certain specified loans made by us to HCP DR California II, LLC, or if such debt is replaced or refinanced, to guarantee that replacement indebtedness;

In the event that HCP DR California II, LLC fails to pay a required make-whole payment, then we shall make the make-whole payment.

Transferability of Interests

The operating agreement provides that a non-managing member may transfer its units only after first offering those units to us and otherwise obtaining our consent, except that a non-managing member may, without obtaining our consent, pledge its units as security for the repayment of debt and transfer such units to the lender upon the foreclosure of such debt if such transfer would not otherwise violate the terms of the operating agreement. A non-managing member may also, without our consent, transfer its units to a partner or member in such non-managing member, as a distribution or in liquidation of that partner's or member's interest in such non-managing member, to a family member of such non-managing member, a trust all of the beneficiaries of which are such non-managing member and family members of such non-managing member, a corporation, general or limited partnership or limited liability company all of the owners of which are such non-managing member and family members of such non-managing member or to an organization described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A), 170(c)(2) or 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, in each case, so long as the transfer would not

Table of Contents

otherwise violate the terms of the operating agreement. The operating agreement further imposes the following restrictions on the transfer of the non-managing member units:

the person to whom any units are transferred must assume all of the obligations of the transferor under the operating agreement;

other than in the case of a redemption, we will have the right to receive an opinion of counsel that the proposed transfer may be effected without registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and will not otherwise violate any federal or state securities laws or regulations;

we may prohibit any transfer otherwise permitted under the operating agreement if such transfer would require the filing of a registration statement under the Securities Act or would otherwise violate any applicable federal or state securities laws or regulations;

no transfer may be made to any person without our consent if such transfer could result in HCP DR California II, LLC being treated as an association taxable as a corporation, adversely affect our ability to maintain our status as a REIT or subject us to additional taxes under Sections 857 or 4981 of the Internal Revenue Code;

no transfer may be made if such transfer could be treated as having been effectuated through an "established securities market" or a "secondary market (or substantial equivalent thereof)," within the meaning of Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code;

no transfer may be made to a lender of HCP DR California II, LLC or any person related to such a lender whose loan constitutes "nonrecourse liability" within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code, without our consent as managing member;

transfers, other than a redemption, may be made only as of the first day of a calendar quarter, unless we otherwise consent; and

no transfer may be made (1) to any person or entity who lacks the legal right, power or capacity to own a membership interest; (2) in violation of applicable law; (3) if such transfer would, in the opinion of legal counsel to us or HCP DR California II, LLC, cause an increased tax liability to any other member or assignee as a result of the termination of HCP DR California II, LLC; (4) if such transfer would cause HCP DR California II, LLC to become a reporting company under the Exchange Act; or (5) if such transfer would cause HCP DR California II, LLC to lose certain material tax benefits or become subject to certain regulations not currently applicable to it.

The admission of a transferee of non-managing membership units as a non-managing member of HCP DR California II, LLC is subject to our consent as managing member and the transferee's acceptance of the terms and conditions of HCP DR California II, LLC's operating agreement.

Capital Contributions

The operating agreement provides that if HCP DR California II, LLC requires additional funds for its operation, we may fund those investments by making a capital contribution to HCP DR California II, LLC. Non-managing members are not required to make any additional capital contributions.

If we fund a capital contribution, we have the right to receive additional managing member units. In the event we receive additional managing member units in return for additional capital contributions, our membership interest in HCP DR California II, LLC will be increased. Non-managing members of HCP DR California II, LLC do not have the right to make additional capital contributions to HCP DR California

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II, LLC unless permitted to do so by us in our discretion. Accordingly, the membership interests of non-managing members in HCP DR California II, LLC will be diluted to the extent we receive an additional membership interest.

S-6

Table of Contents

Tax Matters

Pursuant to the operating agreement, we are the tax matters partner of HCP DR California II, LLC. The tax matters partner serves as HCP DR California II, LLC's representative in most tax matters. For example, as the tax matters partner, we have the authority to file tax returns and make elections for HCP DR California II, LLC, conduct audits, file refund claims on behalf of HCP DR California II, LLC and settle adjustments. In addition, as the tax matters partner, we will receive notices and other information from the Internal Revenue Service. The designation of HCP as the tax matters partner of HCP DR California II, LLC is not directly relevant to our tax status as a REIT.

Operations

The sole purposes of HCP DR California II, LLC are to acquire, own, manage, operate, repair, renovate, maintain, improve, expand, redevelop, encumber, sell, lease, hold for appreciation or otherwise dispose of the real properties contributed to it, and any other properties acquired by it or subsidiaries of it engaged in the foregoing, and to invest and ultimately distribute funds obtained from owning, operating or disposing of such properties. The operating agreement provides, however, that we, as managing member, may operate HCP DR California II, LLC in a manner that will enable us to satisfy the requirements for being classified as a REIT and avoid any federal income tax liability, among other things. Under the operating agreement, HCP DR California II, LLC assumes and pays when due, or reimburses us for payment of, all costs and expenses that we incur for the benefit of or relating to its operation.

Distributions

Holders of non-managing member units are entitled to receive cumulative preferential distributions from the date of issuance of those non-managing member units, payable on a quarterly basis. The right of holders of non-managing member units to receive cumulative preferential distributions means that, unless and until each of those quarterly distributions are paid in full, HCP DR California II, LLC cannot make any distributions to us. These preferred distributions are an amount per unit equal to the amount payable as a dividend with respect to each share of our common stock for the corresponding quarter (subject to adjustment in the event we pay a dividend or distribution on our common stock in shares of our common stock, split or subdivide our common stock or effect a reverse stock split or other combination of our common stock into a smaller number of shares). Following the payment of the preferred distribution to holders of the non-managing member units, HCP DR California II, LLC is required to distribute the remaining cash available for distribution to us until all distributions of cash, including prior distributions, have been made to the members of HCP DR California II, LLC pro rata on the basis of the number of managing member or non-managing member units held by them as compared to the total number of managing member and non-managing member units then outstanding. Thereafter, the remaining cash available for distribution may in the managing member's sole discretion be distributed to the unitholders in proportion to their Sharing Percentages. The "Sharing Percentage" of a holder of non-managing member units is determined by multiplying 1% by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of non-managing member units then outstanding and the denominator of which is the number of non-managing member units issued to all non-managing members, and multiplying the result by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of non-managing member units held by such unitholder, and the denominator of which is the total number of non-managing member units then outstanding. Our "Sharing Percentage," as the managing member of HCP DR California II, LLC, is equal to 100% minus the aggregate Sharing Percentage of the holders of all non-managing member units.

Table of Contents

In the event of a taxable disposition of some of HCP DR California II, LLC's real property, we may elect to distribute all or a portion of the net proceeds of the taxable disposition to the unitholders. In this event, we must distribute these proceeds as follows:

first, to the holders of non-managing member units to pay any previously unpaid preferred distribution on the non-managing member units held by them;

second, to us until all distributions of cash, including prior distributions, have been made to the members of HCP DR California II, LLC pro rata on the basis of the number of managing member or non-managing member units held by them as compared to the total number of managing member and non-managing member units then outstanding;

third, to the holders of managing member units and non-managing member units in proportion to the number of managing member units and non-managing member units held by them in redemption of those units, as discussed below, until all non-managing member units have been redeemed; and

finally, the remaining balance to us.

The distribution of the net proceeds from the taxable disposition of real property will constitute a return of capital to the unitholders of HCP DR California II, LLC. As such, we will cause HCP DR California II, LLC to reduce the number of units outstanding at the time of such distributions by causing non-managing member units to be redeemed.

Upon the refinancing of a property or the incurrence of additional debt, the repayment of which is secured by a property owned by HCP DR California II, LLC, we may elect to distribute all or a portion of the refinancing or other debt proceeds to the unitholders. In this event, we must distribute such proceeds:

first, to the holders of non-managing member units to pay any previously unpaid preferred distribution on the non-managing member units held by them;

second, to us until all distributions of cash, including prior distributions, have been made to the members of HCP DR California II, LLC pro rata on the basis of the number of managing member or non-managing member units held by them as compared to the total number of managing member and non-managing member units then outstanding; and

finally, the remaining balance to the unitholders in proportion to their Sharing Percentages.

Allocation of Income and Loss

The operating net income and net loss of HCP DR California II, LLC is generally allocated as follows:

operating net loss for any fiscal year is allocated to the unitholders in accordance with their Sharing Percentages; and

operating net income for any fiscal year is allocated as follows:

first, to each unitholder to the extent necessary to offset any operating net loss previously allocated to such unitholder;

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second, to each unitholder in an amount that will cause the current allocation, together with all previous allocations of operating net income and net income resulting from the disposition of real property, to be in proportion to and to the extent of the cumulative distributions received by such unitholder for the current and all prior fiscal years; and

finally, to the unitholders in proportion to their Sharing Percentages.

S-8

Table of Contents

In the event HCP DR California II, LLC sells or otherwise disposes of any of its real properties, however, the net income or net loss attributable to such sale or disposition is generally allocated as follows:

net loss attributable to the sale or other disposition of real property is allocated to the holders of units in proportion to their Sharing Percentages; and

net income attributable to the sale or other disposition of real property is allocated as follows:

first, to each unitholder to the extent necessary to offset any net loss previously allocated to such unitholder upon the sale or other disposition of a property;

second, to each unitholder in an amount that will cause the current allocation, together with all previous allocations of operating net income and net income resulting from the disposition of real property, to be in proportion to and to the extent of the cumulative distributions received by such unitholder for the current and all prior fiscal years; and

finally, to the unitholders in proportion to their Sharing Percentages.

In the event HCP DR California II, LLC liquidates or if no units are held by non-managing members, the net income or net loss for that year and any subsequent years is generally allocated as follows:

first, to holders of non-managing member units in such amounts as will cause their capital account per unit to be, to the greatest extent possible, equal to the sum of: (a) the holder's preferred return shortfall per unit (if any), (b) the value of one share of our stock (subject to specified adjustments), and (c) their pro rata share of a 1% (subject to adjustment) sharing amount; and

thereafter, to us.

Each of the allocation provisions described above is subject to special allocations relating to depreciation deductions and to compliance with the provisions of Sections 704(b) and 704(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and related Treasury Regulations.

Term

The operating agreement provides that HCP DR California II, LLC will continue until dissolved by us in accordance with the provisions of the operating agreement or as otherwise provided by law. HCP DR California II, LLC also will dissolve upon:

our withdrawal as the managing member (other than in an event of bankruptcy) unless the non-managing members holding a majority of the non-managing member units then outstanding agree in writing within 90 days to continue the business of HCP DR California II, LLC and to the appointment of a substitute managing member;

our election to dissolve the company in accordance with the provisions of the operating agreement;

the sale of all or substantially all of the assets and properties of the Company;

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a decree of judicial dissolution;

our dissolution, bankruptcy or other incapacity, unless within 90 days the non-managing members holding a majority of the outstanding non-managing member units agree in writing to continue the business of HCP DR California II, LLC and to the appointment of a substitute managing member; or

S-9

Table of Contents

all of the non-managing member units (other than those held by the managing member) have been redeemed for cash or exchanged for shares of our common stock.

Indemnification

The operating agreement provides that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, HCP DR California II, LLC will indemnify us, the non-managing members and the non-managing members' representative as designated in the operating agreement, our directors, our and HCP DR California II, LLC's officers and employees and those other persons and entities that we may designate, unless:

the act taken by an indemnitee that was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding was in bad faith or was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty;

an indemnitee received an improper personal benefit; or

in the case of any criminal proceeding, an indemnitee had reasonable cause to believe the act was unlawful.

HCP California II, LLC is obligated to reimburse the reasonable expenses incurred by an indemnitee in advance of the final disposition of the proceeding if such indemnitee provides HCP California II, LLC with an affirmation of its good faith belief that the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification has been met and an undertaking to repay the amount of the reimbursed expenses if it is determined that such standard was not met. No member of HCP California, LLC, including HCP, is obligated to make capital contributions to enable HCP California, LLC to fund these indemnification obligations.

The operating agreement generally provides that neither we nor any of our directors or officers will be liable to HCP DR California II, LLC or any non-managing member for losses sustained or liabilities incurred as a result of errors in judgment or mistakes of fact or law or of any act or omission if we acted in good faith. In addition, we are not responsible for any misconduct or negligence on the part of our officers, directors or other agents, provided we have appointed such agents in good faith. We may consult with legal counsel, accountants, appraisers, management consultants, investment bankers and other consultants and advisors, and any action we take or omit to take in reliance upon their opinion as to matters which we reasonably believe to be within their professional or expert competence will be conclusively presumed to have been done or omitted in good faith and in accordance with their opinion.

Redemption Rights

Commencing on June 1, 2015, each holder of non-managing member units has the right to cause HCP DR California II, LLC to redeem all or any portion of its units for cash. If a non-managing member makes such an election, in lieu of having HCP DR California II, LLC redeem the tendered units, we may, at our option, elect to redeem such units for cash or exchange them for shares of our common stock.

Upon a redemption, the tendering holder will receive for each non-managing member unit, at our election, either (a) an amount of cash equal to the market value of one share of our common stock (multiplied by an adjustment factor), plus the per unit amount of any shortfall in the preferred distributions, or (b) a number of shares of our common stock equal to such cash amount divided by the market value of one share of our common stock. As of the date of this prospectus supplement, the adjustment factor is 1.0; the adjustment factor may be adjusted from time to time to account for the economic effect of (i) the payment of any dividends or other distributions on our common stock in shares of common stock, any split or subdivision in our outstanding common stock, and any reverse stock split or other combination of our outstanding common stock into a smaller number of shares,

Table of Contents

(ii) the distribution of rights, options or warrants to all holders of our common stock to subscribe or purchase securities or rights convertible into, exchangeable for or exercisable for our common stock at a price per share less than market value on the record date for such distribution, or (iii) the payment of any dividends or other distributions to all holders of our common stock of evidences of our indebtedness or assets (including securities, but excluding any dividend or distribution referred to in in clause (i) or (ii) above), which evidences of indebtedness or assets relate to assets not received by us pursuant to a pro rata distribution by HCP DR California II, LLC. For this purpose, the market value of our shares will be deemed to be the average of the closing price of our common stock for the 20 trading days ending on the second trading day immediately prior to the date (or if not a business day, the business day preceding such date) on which we receive a notice of redemption with respect to the tendered units. Non-managing member units that are acquired by us pursuant to the exercise of a non-managing member's redemption rights will be held by us as non-managing member units, with the same rights and preferences of non-managing member units held by non-managing members of HCP DR California II, LLC.

Our acquisition of non-managing member units, whether they are acquired in exchange for shares of our common stock or cash, will be treated as a sale of the non-managing member units to us for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See "Material United States Federal Income Tax Considerations of an Exchange or Redemption of Units."

A tendering holder effecting a redemption of all or a portion of the holder's units must deliver to HCP DR California, II, Inc. a notice of redemption as required by the operating agreement. In general, a tendering holder has the right to receive cash or, at our election, shares of our common stock, which are generally payable no later than the twentieth calendar day following our receipt of the notice of redemption (or, if such day is not a business day, the next following business day). All shares of our common stock delivered in exchange for non-managing member units will be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable shares, free of any pledge, lien, encumbrance or restriction, other than those provided in our charter, our bylaws, the Securities Act and relevant state securities or blue sky laws. Notwithstanding any delay in delivery of shares in exchange for tendered units, the tendering holder shall be deemed the owner of such shares and vested with all rights of a stockholder as of the date on which the exchange occurs, including the right to vote or consent, and the right to receive dividends. Correspondingly, the tendering holder's right to receive distributions with respect to the tendered units will cease as of the date on which the exchange occurs.

Table of Contents

COMPARISON OF HCP DR CALIFORNIA II, LLC AND HCP

Generally, the nature of an investment in our common stock is similar in several respects to an investment in units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC. However, there are also differences between ownership of such units and ownership of our common stock, some of which may be material to investors.

HCP DR California II, LLC and HCP are organized and incorporated in Delaware and Maryland, respectively. Upon the exchange of units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC for shares of our common stock, the rights of stockholders of HCP will be governed by the Maryland General Corporation Law and by our charter and bylaws.

The information below highlights the material differences between HCP DR California II, LLC and us, relating to, among other things, form of organization, management control, voting rights, compensation and fees, investor rights, liquidity and federal income tax considerations. These comparisons are intended to assist holders of non-managing member units in understanding the ways in which their investment will be materially changed if they tender their units for redemption and receive shares of our common stock in exchange for such units.

The following discussion is summary in nature and does not constitute a complete discussion of these matters. The differences between the rights of HCP DR California II, LLC unitholders and HCP stockholders may be determined in full by reference to the Maryland General Corporation Law, the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act, our charter and bylaws, the operating agreement of HCP DR California II, LLC, as amended and restated, and the balance of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the registration statement of which the accompanying prospectus is a part.

HCP DR California II, LLC / Delaware Law

HCP / Maryland Law

Form of Organization and Assets Owned

HCP DR California II, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company. Through a subsidiary partnership, HCP DR California II, LLC owns a 124-unit residential care facility for the elderly known as Oakmont of Chino Hills, located in Chino Hills, California.

We are a Maryland corporation and were organized to qualify as a self-administered REIT that, together with our unconsolidated joint ventures, invests primarily in real estate serving the healthcare industry in the United States. We acquire, develop, lease, manage and dispose of healthcare real estate, and provide financing to healthcare providers. At March 31, 2015, our portfolio of investments, including properties in our investment management platform, consisted of interests in 1,196 facilities.

Purpose

HCP DR California II, LLC's purpose is to acquire, own, manage, operate, repair, renovate, maintain, improve, expand, redevelop, encumber, sell, lease, hold for appreciation or otherwise dispose of the properties owned by it and any other properties acquired by it or its subsidiaries, and to invest and ultimately distribute the funds obtained from owning, operating or disposing of such properties.

Under our charter, we may engage in the ownership of real property and any other lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under Maryland law.

Table of Contents

HCP DR California II, LLC / Delaware Law

HCP / Maryland Law

Additional Equity

See "Operating Agreement Capital Contributions" above.

Our board of directors may, in its discretion, authorize the issuance of additional shares of common stock or preferred stock; provided that the total number of shares issued cannot exceed the authorized number of shares of stock set forth in our charter.

Borrowing Policies

The operating agreement provides that HCP DR California II, LLC is permitted to incur or assume debt, including debt to us or our affiliates. HCP DR California II, LLC will be required to pay to the non-managing members a make-whole payment in an amount equal to the aggregate federal, state and local income taxes incurred by the non-managing members if it fails to maintain certain indebtedness during the Tax Protection Period, as described above under "Operating Agreement Tax Protection Period."

We are not restricted under our charter or bylaws from incurring debt.

Management Control

All management powers over the business and affairs of HCP DR California II, LLC are vested in us as the managing member. No non-managing member has any right to participate in or exercise control or management power over the business and affairs of HCP DR California II, LLC, except for actions which require the consent of the holders of a majority of the non-managing member units held by non-managing members. See "Operating Agreement Management" above and " Voting Rights" below.

Our board of directors has exclusive control over our business affairs subject only to the applicable provisions of Maryland law and the provisions in our charter and bylaws.

Duties of Managing Member and Directors

Under Delaware law, as managing member of HCP DR California II, LLC, we are accountable to HCP DR California II, LLC as a fiduciary and, consequently, are required to exercise good faith and integrity in all of our dealings with respect to HCP DR California II, LLC's affairs.

Under Maryland law, directors must perform their duties in good faith, in a manner that they reasonably believe to be in the best interests of the corporation, and with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would use under similar circumstances. Directors who act in such a manner generally will not be liable by reason of being a director. Under Maryland law, an act of a director is generally presumed to satisfy such standards.

S-13

Table of Contents

HCP DR California II, LLC / Delaware Law

HCP / Maryland Law

Indemnification and Management Liability

See "Operating Agreement Indemnification and Management Liability."

Our charter contains a provision which eliminates the liability of directors and officers to us and our stockholders for money damages to the fullest extent permitted by Maryland law. Neither the provisions of our charter nor Maryland law limit the ability of us or our stockholders to obtain other relief, such as injunction or rescission. Our bylaws provide for indemnification of directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Maryland law. See "Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and HCP's Charter and Bylaws" in the accompanying prospectus.

Anti-Takeover Provisions

Except in limited circumstances (see " Voting Rights" below), we have exclusive management power over the business and affairs of HCP DR California II, LLC. Accordingly, we have the ability to determine whether HCP DR California II, LLC engages in a merger transaction or other business combination. We may not be removed as managing member by the non-managing members without our consent.

Our charter and bylaws contain a number of provisions that may delay or discourage an unsolicited proposal for the acquisition of our company or the removal of incumbent management. These provisions include:

During the Tax Protection Period, HCP DR California II, LLC will be required to pay to the non-managing members a make-whole payment if we cause HCP DR California II, LLC to merge with another entity (other than a subsidiary of HCP DR California II, LLC), sell all or substantially all of its assets (other than to a subsidiary of HCP DR California II, LLC), reclassify its outstanding equity interests, or otherwise dissolve or terminate its existence (subject to limited exceptions) without the prior consent of the holders of a majority of the non-managing member units held by non-managing members. See "Operating Agreement Tax Protection Period" above. These limitations may have the effect of hindering the ability of HCP DR California II, LLC to enter into business combinations.

authorized capital stock that may be issued as preferred stock in the discretion of our board of directors, with voting or other rights superior to the common stock;

provisions designed to avoid concentration of share ownership in a manner that would jeopardize our status as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code;

super-majority stockholder vote for certain business combinations; and

the advance notice provisions of our bylaws.

Maryland law also contains provisions which could delay, defer or prevent a change of control or other transaction. See "Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and HCP's Charter and Bylaws" in the accompanying prospectus.

Our bylaws contain a provision exempting acquisitions of shares of our stock from the Maryland control share acquisition statute.

Table of Contents

HCP DR California II, LLC / Delaware Law

A non-managing member generally may not transfer all or any portion of its membership interest in HCP DR California II, LLC without first offering that membership interest to us or otherwise obtaining our consent. Accordingly, we may elect to exercise our right of first refusal to prevent a membership interest from being transferred to a particular third party. Unless we consent to the admission of a transferee of a membership interest as a substitute member of HCP DR California II, LLC, the transferee is not entitled to vote on any matter submitted to the members for their approval. The ability of a unitholder to transfer its membership interest in HCP DR California II, LLC may be further hindered by other factors. See "Operating Agreement Transferability of Interests" above.

Voting Rights Generally

Under the operating agreement, the non-managing members have voting rights only as to specified matters, including:

amending the operating agreement, except in limited circumstances; and

those other actions discussed above under "Operating Agreement Management."

The non-managing members generally do not otherwise have the right to vote on decisions relating to the operation or management of HCP DR California II, LLC.

Unless admitted as a member, a transferee of a membership interest is not entitled to vote on any matter submitted to the members for their approval.

HCP / Maryland Law

Maryland law requires that major corporate transactions, including most amendments to our charter, must have stockholder approval as described below. All shares of common stock have one vote per share. Our charter permits our board of directors to classify and issue preferred stock in one or more series having voting power which may differ from that of the common stock. See "Description of Capital Stock" in the accompanying prospectus.

Our bylaws permit any stockholder or group of up to ten stockholders who have maintained continuous qualifying ownership of 5% or more of our outstanding common stock for at least the previous three years to include a specified number of director nominees in our proxy materials for an annual meeting of stockholders. The maximum number of stockholder nominees permitted under the proxy access provisions of our bylaws is equal to 20% of the directors in office as of the last day a notice of nomination may be timely received.

Table of Contents

HCP DR California II, LLC / Delaware Law

HCP / Maryland Law

Voting Rights Amendment of Organizational Documents

Amendments to the operating agreement may be proposed by us as managing member or by holders of a majority of the non-managing member units held by non-managing members. To be effective, amendments must be approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding units, subject to certain exceptions. In addition, certain amendments must be approved by each non-managing member that would be adversely affected by such amendment. We may amend the operating agreement without the consent of the non-managing members if the purpose or the effect of such amendment is to make administrative or inconsequential changes or comply with any federal or state agency rulings, guidelines, directives or laws, or as are necessary for us to maintain our status as a REIT. See "Operating Agreement Management."

Under our charter, most amendments to our charter must be approved by our board of directors and by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter.

The affirmative vote of holders of at least two-thirds of our voting stock is required to repeal or amend the provisions of the charter relating to:

business combinations;

the removal and setting of the minimum and maximum number of our directors; and

certain limitations on ownership of our voting capital stock. See "Description of Capital Stock" in the accompanying prospectus.

Provisions of our bylaws regarding the number of directors, in certain circumstances, and the vote required to amend the bylaws may be amended only by unanimous vote of the board of directors or by the affirmative vote of not less than 90% of all of the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter. Other amendments to our bylaws require the affirmative vote of a majority of the entire board of directors or the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all of the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter.

Voting Rights Dissolution

As managing member, we may dissolve HCP DR California II, LLC without any vote or approval of non-managing members. However, during the Tax Protection Period, HCP DR California II, LLC will be required to pay a make-whole payment to non-managing members if a dissolution occurs without the consent of a majority in interest of the non-managing members.

Our dissolution must be approved by our board of directors by a majority vote of the entire board and by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter.

Table of Contents

HCP DR California II, LLC / Delaware Law

HCP / Maryland Law

Voting Rights Sale of Assets; Merger; Transfer of Properties

During the Tax Protection Period, HCP DR California II, LLC will be required to pay to non-managing members a make-whole payment unless we obtain the consent of the holders of a majority in interest of the non-managing members before we:

Our charter requires that, subject to certain exceptions, business combinations between us and a beneficial holder of 10% or more of our outstanding voting stock be approved by the affirmative vote of at least 90% of our outstanding voting shares. See "Description of Capital Stock Business Combination Provisions" in the accompanying prospectus.

cause HCP DR California II, LLC to merge with another entity, sell all or substantially all of its assets or reclassify its outstanding equity interests, subject to limited exceptions; or

Generally, mergers, consolidations and sales of all or substantially all of our assets must be approved by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of a majority of all votes entitled to be cast on the matter. No approval of our stockholders is required for any sale of less than substantially all of our assets which is not a business combination.

sell HCP DR California II, LLC's real property.

See "Operating Agreement Tax Protection Period."

Compensation, Fees and Distributions

We do not receive any compensation for our services as managing member of HCP DR California II, LLC but are reimbursed for expenses.

Our officers and outside directors receive compensation for their services as more fully described in the compensation information incorporated by reference in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

Liability of Investors

Under the operating agreement and applicable Delaware law, the liability of non-managing members for the debts and obligations of HCP DR California II, LLC is generally limited to the amount of their investment in HCP DR California II, LLC, together with their interest in any undistributed income, if any.

Under Maryland law, our stockholders are not personally liable for our debts or obligations solely as a result of their status as stockholders.

Table of Contents

HCP DR California II, LLC / Delaware Law

HCP / Maryland Law

Liquidity

Except in limited circumstances, a non-managing member may not transfer all or any portion of its membership interest in HCP DR California II, LLC without first offering that membership interest to us and otherwise obtaining our consent. HCP has the right to receive an opinion of counsel in connection with the transfer of non-managing member units to the effect that the transfer may be effected without registration under the Securities Act and will not otherwise violate any applicable federal or state securities laws or regulations.

Shares of common stock issued pursuant to this prospectus supplement will be freely transferable, subject to prospectus delivery and other requirements of the Securities Act, and the transfer restrictions in our charter. Our common stock is listed on the NYSE.

Also, see "Operating Agreement Transferability of Interests" and " Anti-Takeover Provisions" above.

HCP DR California II, LLC itself is not subject to federal income taxes. Instead, each holder of units includes its allocable share of HCP DR California II, LLC's taxable income or loss in determining its individual federal income tax liability. Cash distributions from HCP DR California II, LLC generally are not taxable to a holder of non-managing member units except to the extent they exceed such holder's basis in its interest in HCP DR California II, LLC (which will include such holder's allocable share of HCP DR California II, LLC's debt).

Taxes

As long as we qualify as a REIT, distributions out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, other than capital gain dividends discussed below, generally will constitute dividends taxable to our taxable U.S. stockholders as ordinary income and will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction in the case of U.S. stockholders that are corporations. In addition, these distributions generally will not be eligible for treatment as "qualified dividend income" for individual U.S. stockholders. Distributions that we properly designate as capital gain dividends will be taxable to our taxable U.S. stockholders as gain from the sale or disposition of a capital asset, to the extent that such gain does not exceed our actual net capital gain for the taxable year. Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits will be treated as a nontaxable return of capital to the extent of a stockholder's adjusted basis in its common stock, with the excess taxed as capital gain.

Income and loss from HCP DR California II, LLC generally are subject to the "passive activity" limitations. Under the "passive activity" limitations, income and loss from HCP DR California II, LLC that is considered "passive income" generally can be offset against income and loss from other investments that constitute "passive activities."

Distributions we make and gain arising from the sale or exchange by a U.S. stockholder of our shares will not be treated as passive activity income. As a result, U.S. stockholders generally will not be able to apply any "passive losses" against this income or gain.

Holders of units are required, in some cases, to file state income tax returns and/or pay state income taxes in the states in which HCP DR California II, LLC owns property, even if they are not residents of those states.

Table of Contents

HCP DR California II, LLC / Delaware Law

HCP / Maryland Law

Stockholders who are individuals generally will not be required to file state income tax returns and/or pay state income taxes outside of their state of residence with respect to our operations and distributions. We may be required to pay state income taxes in various states.

S-19

Table of Contents

**UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS OF AN
EXCHANGE OR REDEMPTION OF UNITS**

The following is a general summary of certain United States federal income tax considerations regarding the tender of units in exchange for shares of common stock or the redemption of units for cash, as described in this prospectus supplement. This summary does not purport to be a complete analysis of all of the potential tax considerations relating thereto. This summary is based on current law, is for general information only and is not tax advice.

The information in this summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code; current, temporary and proposed Treasury Regulations promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code; the legislative history of the Internal Revenue Code; current administrative interpretations and practices of the Internal Revenue Service; and court decisions, in each case, as of the date of this prospectus supplement. In addition, the administrative interpretations and practices of the Internal Revenue Service include its practices and policies as expressed in private letter rulings that are not binding on the Internal Revenue Service except with respect to the particular taxpayers who requested and received those rulings. Future legislation, Treasury Regulations, administrative interpretations and practices and/or court decisions may change or adversely affect the tax considerations described in this prospectus supplement. Any such change could apply retroactively to transactions preceding the date of the change. We have not requested and do not intend to request a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service regarding any matter discussed in this prospectus supplement, and the statements in this prospectus supplement are not binding on the Internal Revenue Service or any court. Thus, we can provide no assurance that the tax considerations contained in this summary will not be challenged by the Internal Revenue Service or will be sustained by a court if so challenged.

This summary assumes that the units are held as "capital assets" (generally, property held for investment). Your tax treatment will vary depending on your particular situation. This discussion does not purport to deal with all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to holders of units in light of their personal investment or tax circumstances, or to holders of units who receive special treatment under the United States federal income tax laws except to the extent discussed specifically herein. Holders of units receiving special treatment include, without limitation:

banks, insurance companies or other financial institutions;

brokers or dealers in securities or commodities;

traders in securities;

expatriates and certain former citizens or long-term residents of the United States;

tax-exempt organizations;

persons who are subject to the alternative minimum tax;

persons who hold units as a position in a "straddle" or as part of a "hedging," "conversion" or other risk reduction transaction;

persons deemed to sell units under the constructive sale provisions of the Internal Revenue Code;

United States persons that have a functional currency other than the United States dollar;

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except to the extent specifically discussed below, holders of units who are not United States persons; or

persons that are S corporations, real estate investment trusts, regulated investment companies, partnerships or other pass-through entities.

S-20

Table of Contents

The United States federal income tax consequences to a holder of units that tenders its units in exchange for shares of our common stock or a holder whose units are redeemed for cash depend in some instances on determinations of fact and interpretations of complex provisions of United States federal income tax law. No clear precedent or authority may be available on some questions.

EACH HOLDER OF UNITS IS ADVISED TO CONSULT HIS OR HER TAX ADVISOR REGARDING THE SPECIFIC FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND FOREIGN INCOME AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES TO HIM OR HER AS A RESULT OF A SALE, EXCHANGE OR REDEMPTION OF TENDERED UNITS, AND OF POTENTIAL CHANGES IN APPLICABLE TAX LAWS.

Exchange or Redemption of Units

If HCP, Inc. acquires a unit in exchange for shares of common stock or redeems a unit for cash, a tendering holder of units will recognize gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between (i) the amount realized in the transaction (i.e., the sum of the cash and the fair market value of any shares of common stock plus the amount of the partnership liabilities allocable to such tendered unit at such time) and (ii) the holder's tax basis in the unit disposed of, which tax basis will be adjusted for the unit's allocable share of HCP DR California II, LLC's income, gain or loss for the taxable year of disposition. The tax liability resulting from the gain recognized on the disposition of a unit could exceed the amount of cash and the fair market value of any shares of common stock received in exchange therefor. The use of any loss recognized upon an exchange is subject to a number of limitations set forth in the Internal Revenue Code. A holder's adjusted tax basis in any of our common stock received in exchange for units will be the fair market value of those shares on the date of the exchange. Similarly, a holder's holding period in such shares will begin on the date of the exchange.

If HCP DR California II, LLC redeems a tendered unit for cash (which is not contributed by us to effect the redemption), the tax consequences generally would be the same as described in the preceding paragraph, except that if HCP DR

California II, LLC redeems less than all of a holder's units, the holder would recognize no taxable loss and would recognize taxable gain only to the extent that the cash, plus the amount of HCP DR California II, LLC liabilities allocable to the redeemed units, exceeded the holder's adjusted tax basis in all of such holder's units immediately before the redemption.

Disguised Sales

Under the Internal Revenue Code, a transfer of property by a partner to a partnership followed by a related transfer by the partnership of money or other property to the partner is treated as a disguised sale if (i) the second transfer would not have occurred but for the first transfer and (ii) the second transfer is not dependent on the entrepreneurial risks of the partnership's operations. In a disguised sale, the partner is treated as if he or she sold the contributed property to the partnership as of the date the property was contributed to the partnership. Transfers of money or other property between a partnership and a partner that are made within two years of each other, including redemptions of units made within two years of a contribution of property by a holder of units to HCP DR California II, LLC, must be reported to the Internal Revenue Service and are presumed to be a disguised sale unless the facts and circumstances clearly establish that the transfers do not constitute a sale.

A redemption of units by HCP DR California II, LLC within two years of the date of a contribution of property by a holder of units to HCP DR California II, LLC may be treated as a disguised sale. If this treatment were to apply, such holder of units would be treated for United States federal income tax purposes as if, on the date of its contribution of property to HCP DR California II, LLC, HCP DR California II, LLC transferred to such holder an obligation to pay such

Table of Contents

holder the redemption proceeds. In that case, the holder of units would be required to recognize gain on the disguised sale in such earlier year.

Character of Gain or Loss Recognized

Except as described below, the gain or loss that a holder of units recognizes on a sale, exchange or redemption of a tendered unit will be treated as a capital gain or loss and will be treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the holding period for the unit exceeds twelve months. Long-term capital gains recognized by individuals and certain other noncorporate taxpayers generally will be subject to a maximum United States federal income tax rate of 20%. If the amount realized with respect to a unit that is attributable to a holder's share of "unrealized receivables" of HCP DR California II, LLC exceeds the tax basis attributable to those assets, such excess will be treated as ordinary income. Among other things, unrealized receivables include depreciation recapture for certain types of property. In addition, the maximum United States federal income tax rate applicable to persons who are noncorporate taxpayers for net capital gains attributable to the sale of depreciable real property (which may be determined to include an interest in a partnership such as HCP DR California II, LLC) held for more than twelve months is currently 25% (rather than 20%) to the extent of previously claimed depreciation deductions that would not be treated as unrealized receivables. Non-corporate taxpayers may also be subject to certain Medicare tax on investment income, as described below.

Medicare 3.8% Tax on Investment Income

Certain United States persons that are individuals, estates or trusts will be required to pay a 3.8% Medicare tax on dividends and certain other investment income. Investment income generally will include gain from the redemption of units for cash or the exchange of units for shares of our common stock. In the case of individuals, this tax will only apply to the extent such individual's modified adjusted gross income exceeds \$200,000 (\$250,000 for married couples filing a joint return and surviving spouses, and \$125,000 for married individuals filing a separate return). If you are a U.S. person that is an individual, estate or trust, you are urged to consult your tax advisors regarding the applicability of this tax.

Passive Activity Losses

The passive activity loss rules of the Internal Revenue Code limit the use of losses derived from passive activities, which generally include investments in limited liability company interests such as the units. You are urged to consult your tax advisor concerning whether, and the extent to which, you have available suspended passive activity losses from HCP DR California II, LLC or other investments that may be used to offset gain from the sale, exchange or redemption of your units tendered for redemption.

Tax Reporting

If a unit is exchanged or redeemed, the holder must report the transaction by filing a statement with its United States federal income tax return for the year of the disposition which provides certain required information to the Internal Revenue Service. To prevent the possible application of backup withholding with respect to payment of the consideration, a holder of units must provide HCP, Inc. or HCP DR California II, LLC with its correct taxpayer identification number.

Foreign Offerees

Gain recognized by a foreign person on a sale, exchange or redemption of a unit tendered for redemption will be subject to United States federal income tax under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980 ("FIRPTA"). If you are a foreign person, HCP, Inc. or HCP DR

Table of Contents

California II, LLC will be required, under the FIRPTA provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, to deduct and withhold 10% of the amount realized by you on the disposition, and you will be required to file a United States federal income tax return to report your gain and pay any additional tax due. The amount withheld would be creditable against your United States federal income tax liability and, if the amount withheld exceeds your actual tax liability, you could claim a refund from the Internal Revenue Service.

Withholding of Foreign Accounts

Withholding at a rate of 30% on sales proceeds (which would include any cash or the value of our common stock exchanged for units) paid after December 31, 2016 from the sale of units held by or through certain foreign financial institutions (including investment funds), unless such institution enters into an agreement with the Secretary of the Treasury to report, on an annual basis, information with respect to shares in the institution held by certain United States persons and by certain non-U.S. entities that are wholly or partially owned by United States persons and to withhold on certain payments. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and the applicable foreign country, or future Treasury regulations or other guidance may modify these requirements. Accordingly, the entity through which shares of our common stock are held will affect the determination of whether such withholding is required. Similarly, gross proceeds from the sale of units held by an investor that is a non-financial non-U.S. entity that does not qualify under certain exemptions generally will be subject to withholding at a rate of 30%, unless such entity either (i) certifies to us that such entity does not have any "substantial United States owners" or (ii) provides certain information regarding the entity's "substantial United States owners," which we will in turn provide to the Internal Revenue Service. We will not pay any additional amounts to holders in respect of any amounts withheld. Prospective holders are encouraged to consult their tax advisors regarding the possible implications of these rules on an investment in shares of our common stock.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

This prospectus supplement relates to the possible issuance by us of up to 119,687 shares of our common stock if, and to the extent that, the holders of units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC tender such units for redemption and we elect, in our discretion, to satisfy our redemption obligation by issuing shares of our common stock in exchange for such tendered units. Registration of the issuance of such shares does not necessarily mean that any of the holders of units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC will exercise their redemption rights with respect to the units or that we will issue any shares of our common stock to satisfy such redemption obligation. Upon the tender of any units for redemption, we may elect to pay cash for some or all of such units rather than issue shares of our common stock in exchange for such units.

We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the shares of our common stock pursuant to this prospectus supplement to the holders of units tendered for redemption, but we will acquire units representing non-managing membership interests in HCP DR California II, LLC in exchange for shares of our common stock issued to a holder of units upon redemption of its units.

We have agreed to pay the following expenses for the registration of the shares:

all registration and filing fees;

fees and expenses of compliance with securities or blue sky laws (including the fees and expenses of counsel to the Company);

printing and distribution expenses;

internal expenses;

Table of Contents

fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the shares on each securities exchange on which our common stock is then listed; and

fees and expenses of our legal counsel, independent public accountants and other experts we retain in connection with the registration.

VALIDITY OF COMMON STOCK

The validity of the shares of our common stock offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Ballard Spahr LLP, Baltimore, Maryland.

S-24

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

HCP, Inc.
Common Stock
Preferred Stock
Depositary Shares
Debt Securities
Warrants

We may from time to time offer to sell together or separately in one or more offerings:

common stock;

preferred stock;

depositary shares;

debt securities; and

warrants.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities. We will provide the specific amounts, prices and terms of these securities in one or more supplements to this prospectus at the time of the offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement or other offering materials carefully before you make your investment decision.

We may offer and sell these securities through underwriters, brokers, dealers or agents or directly to purchasers, or a combination thereof on a continuous or delayed basis. The securities may also be resold by selling security holders. The prospectus supplement for each offering will describe in detail the plan of distribution for that offering and will set forth the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the offering and any applicable fees, commissions or discount arrangements and our net proceeds for such sale.

This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement or a free writing prospectus.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE, under the trading symbol "HCP." Each prospectus supplement will indicate if the securities offered thereby will be listed on any securities exchange.

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider the risk factors incorporated herein by reference and described under the heading "Risk Factors" beginning on page 2 of this prospectus and in any accompanying prospectus supplement relating to specific offerings of securities.

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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 26, 2015.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>About This Prospectus</u>	<u>ii</u>
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	<u>ii</u>
<u>Cautionary Language Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	<u>iv</u>
<u>Summary</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Risk Factors</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Description of Securities</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Description of Capital Stock</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Description of Depositary Shares</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Description of Warrants</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and HCP's Charter and Bylaws</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>Selling Security Holders</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>United States Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	<u>57</u>
<u>Validity of Securities</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Experts</u>	<u>60</u>

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using a "shelf" registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer and sell common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities or warrants, or any combination thereof, from time to time, in one or more offerings.

This prospectus only provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities we will provide a supplement to this prospectus that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering, including the specific amounts, prices and terms of the securities offered. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should carefully read both this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement or other offering materials, together with the additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information," in making your investment decision.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. This document may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities.

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement or other offering materials do not contain all of the information included in the registration statement as permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information, we refer you to the registration statement on Form S-3, including its exhibits. We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, and, therefore, file reports and other information with the SEC. Statements contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement or other offering materials about the provisions or contents of any agreement or other document are only summaries. If SEC rules require that any agreement or document be filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, you should refer to that agreement or document for its complete contents.

You should not assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any other offering materials is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of each document. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since then.

In this prospectus, unless otherwise indicated herein or the context otherwise indicates, the terms "HCP," "we," "us," "our" and the "Company" mean HCP, Inc., together with its consolidated subsidiaries. Unless otherwise indicated, currency amounts in this prospectus are stated in United States, or U.S., dollars.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. You may inspect without charge any documents filed by us at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet site, www.sec.gov, that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC, including HCP, Inc.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" information we file with the SEC into this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document that HCP has filed separately with the SEC.

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Table of Contents

The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. Information that HCP files with the SEC after the date of this prospectus and that is incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement will update and supersede the information included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. We incorporate by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement the following documents (other than any portions of any such documents deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with the applicable SEC rules):

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014;

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 15, 2015, January 21, 2015, February 11, 2015, March 30, 2015 (as to Items 1.01 and 2.06 only), April 21, 2015, May 4, 2015, May 20, 2015, June 18, 2015 (as to Item 5.02 only) and June 24, 2015 (as to Item 2.06 only);

those portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on March 17, 2015, that are incorporated by reference into Part III of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014;

the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 10 dated May 7, 1985 (File No. 1-08895), including the amendments dated May 20, 1985 and May 23, 1985, and any other amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description, including the description of amendments to our charter contained in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended June 30, 2001, June 30, 2004 and September 30, 2007; and

any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act until we sell all of the securities offered by this prospectus or the offering is otherwise terminated.

We will provide copies, without charge, of any documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement, excluding exhibits unless specifically incorporated by reference, to any persons to whom a prospectus is delivered, including any beneficial owner, who requests them in writing or by telephone from:

Legal Department
HCP, Inc.
1920 Main Street, Suite 1200
Irvine, California 92614
(949) 407-0700
legaldept@hcpi.com

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements in this prospectus and the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement that are not historical factual statements are "forward-looking statements." We intend to have our forward-looking statements covered by the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and include this statement for purposes of complying with those provisions. Forward-looking statements include, among other things, statements regarding our and our officers' intent, belief or expectation as identified by the use of words such as "may," "will," "project," "expect," "believe," "intend," "anticipate," "seek," "forecast," "plan," "potential," "estimate," "could," "would," "should" and other comparable and derivative terms or the negatives thereof. Any such forward-looking statements reflect our current expectations and views about future events and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could significantly affect the Company's future financial condition and results of operations. While forward-looking statements reflect our good faith belief and reasonable assumptions based upon current information, we can give no assurance that our expectations or forecasts will be attained. Further, we cannot guarantee the accuracy of any such forward-looking statement, and such forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. As more fully set forth herein under "Risk Factors" and under "Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and "Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations contained in the forward-looking statements include, among other things:

- (a) our ability to fully evaluate the ability of HCR ManorCare, Inc. ("HCRMC") to meet its contractual obligations under its lease agreement with the Company, as amended on March 29, 2015, to reduce initial annual rent, and risks related to the impact of the Department of Justice lawsuit against HCRMC, including the possibility of larger than expected litigation costs, adverse results and related developments;
- (b) our reliance on a concentration of a small number of tenants and operators for a significant portion of our revenues;
- (c) the financial weakness of tenants and operators, including potential bankruptcies, significant litigation exposure and downturns in their businesses, which results in uncertainties regarding our ability to continue to realize the full benefit of such tenants' and/or operators' leases;
- (d) the ability of our tenants and operators to conduct their respective businesses in a manner sufficient to maintain or increase their revenues and to generate sufficient income to make rent and loan payments to us and our ability to recover investments made, if applicable, in their operations;
- (e) competition for tenants and operators, including with respect to new leases and mortgages and the renewal or rollover of existing leases;
- (f) availability of suitable properties to acquire at favorable prices and the competition for the acquisition and financing of those properties;
- (g) our ability to negotiate the same or better terms with new tenants or operators if existing leases are not renewed or we exercise our right to replace an existing tenant or operator upon default;
- (h) the risks associated with our investments in joint ventures and unconsolidated entities, including our lack of sole decision making authority and our reliance on our partners' financial condition and continued cooperation;
- (i) the risk that we may not be able to achieve the benefits of investments within expected time frames or at all, or within expected cost projections;

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Table of Contents

- (j) the potential impact of future litigation matters, including the possibility of larger than expected litigation costs, adverse results and related developments;
- (k) the effect on healthcare providers of legislation addressing entitlement programs and related services, including Medicare and Medicaid, which may result in future reductions in reimbursements;
- (l) changes in federal, state or local laws and regulations, including those affecting the healthcare industry that affect our costs of compliance or increase the costs, or otherwise affect the operations, of our tenants and operators;
- (m) volatility or uncertainty in the capital markets, the availability and cost of capital as impacted by interest rates, changes in our credit ratings, and the value of our common stock, and other conditions that may adversely impact our ability to fund our obligations or consummate transactions, or reduce the earnings from potential transactions;
- (n) changes in global, national and local economic conditions, and currency exchange rates;
- (o) changes in the credit ratings on U.S. government debt securities or default or delay in payment by the United States of its obligations;
- (p) our ability to manage our indebtedness level and changes in the terms of such indebtedness; and
- (q) the ability to maintain our qualification as a real estate investment trust.

Except as required by law, we undertake no, and hereby disclaim any, obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, changed circumstances or otherwise.

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

The information included below is only a summary and may not contain all the information that is important to you. You should carefully read both this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement and any other offering materials, together with the additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information."

HCP, Inc.

HCP, an S&P 500 company, invests primarily in real estate serving the healthcare industry in the United States. We are a Maryland corporation organized in 1985 and qualify as a self-administered real estate investment trust, or REIT. We are headquartered in Irvine, California, with offices in Nashville, Los Angeles, San Francisco and London. We acquire, develop, lease, manage and dispose of healthcare real estate, and provide financing to healthcare providers. Our diverse portfolio is comprised of investments in the following healthcare segments: (i) senior housing, (ii) post-acute/skilled nursing, (iii) life science, (iv) medical office and (v) hospital.

Our principal executive offices are located at 1920 Main Street, Suite 1200, Irvine California 92614, and our telephone number is (949) 407-0700.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the information under the heading "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015, and any applicable prospectus supplement as updated by our subsequent filings with the SEC, pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Each of the risks described in these documents could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects, and could result in a partial or complete loss of your investment. See "Where You Can Find More Information."

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sales of the securities as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise set forth in a prospectus supplement, we will not receive any proceeds in the event that the securities are sold by a selling security holder.

RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

The following table sets forth our ratios of earnings to fixed charges and our ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for the periods indicated. In computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings have been based on consolidated pre-tax income from continuing operations before fixed charges (exclusive of capitalized interest). Fixed charges consist of interest on debt, including amounts capitalized, an estimate of interest in rental expense, and interest expense related to the guaranteed debt of the partnerships and limited liability companies in which we hold an interest. In computing the ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends, preferred stock dividends consist of dividends on our 7.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock and 7.10% Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock. In April 2012, we redeemed all of our 7.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock and 7.10% Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock.

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2015	Year Ended December 31,				
		2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	(1)	2.92	2.82	2.59	2.00	2.07
Ratio of Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends ⁽²⁾	(1)	2.92	2.82	2.50	1.91	1.94

(1) Earnings did not cover fixed charges during the three months ended March 31, 2015. The amount of fixed charges during the three months ended March 31, 2015 of \$121 million was in excess of earnings by \$254 million. Earnings of (\$133) million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 included a non-cash impairment charge of \$478 million.

(2) Subsequent to the year ended December 31, 2012, we had no outstanding shares of preferred stock. Therefore, the ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2014 and the three months ended March 31, 2015 are identical to the ratios of earnings to fixed charges for such periods.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

This prospectus contains summary descriptions of the common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities and warrants that we may offer and sell from time to time. These summary descriptions are not meant to be complete descriptions of each security. The particular terms of any security will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following description summarizes the material provisions of the common stock and preferred stock we may offer. This description is not complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, our charter and our bylaws and applicable provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law, or the MGCL. The specific terms of any series of preferred stock will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Any series of preferred stock we issue will be governed by our charter and by the articles supplementary related to that series. We will file the articles supplementary with the SEC and incorporate it by reference as an exhibit to our registration statement at or before the time we issue any preferred stock of that series of authorized preferred stock.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 750,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, and 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share. The following description does not contain all the information that might be important to you.

Common Stock

As of June 23, 2015, there were 462,467,225 shares of common stock outstanding. All shares of common stock participate equally in dividends payable to holders of common stock, when, as and if authorized by our board and declared by us, and in net assets available for distribution to holders of common stock on liquidation, dissolution, or winding up. Each outstanding share of common stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of our stockholders. Holders of common stock do not have cumulative voting rights in the election of directors.

All issued and outstanding shares of common stock are, and the common stock offered by this prospectus will be upon issuance, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Holders of common stock do not have preference, conversion, exchange or preemptive rights. The common stock is listed on the NYSE (NYSE Symbol: HCP).

The Transfer Agent and Registrar for our common stock is Wells Fargo Shareowner Services.

Preferred Stock

As of June 25, 2015 we had no shares of preferred stock outstanding. Under our charter, our board is authorized without further stockholder action to establish and issue, from time to time, up to 50,000,000 shares of our preferred stock, in one or more series, with such designations, preferences, powers and relative participating, optional or other special rights, and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereon, including, but not limited to, dividend rights, dividend rate or rates, conversion rights, voting rights, rights and terms of redemption (including sinking fund provisions), the redemption price or prices, and the liquidation preferences as shall be stated in the resolution providing for the issue of a series of such stock, adopted, at any time or from time to time, by our board.

The following description of the terms of the preferred stock sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the preferred stock to which any prospectus supplement may relate. The preferred stock shall have the dividend, liquidation, redemption and voting rights set forth below unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of the preferred stock. The terms of any particular series of preferred stock will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to that particular series of preferred stock, including:

the number of shares constituting the series and the distinctive designation thereof;

the voting rights, if any, of the series;

the rate of dividends payable on the series, the time or times when dividends will be payable, the preference to, or any relation to, the payment of dividends to any other class or series of stock and whether the dividends will be cumulative or noncumulative;

Table of Contents

whether there shall be a sinking or similar fund for the purchase of shares of the series and, if so, the terms and provisions that shall govern the fund;

the rights of the holders of shares of the series upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up;

the rights, if any, of holders of shares of the series to convert their shares into, or to exchange the shares for, shares of any other class or classes or any other series of the same or of any other class or classes of stock of the corporation or any other securities, the price or prices or rate or rates of exchange, with such adjustments as shall be provided, at which the shares shall be convertible or exchangeable, whether such rights of conversion or exchange shall be exercisable at the option of the holder of the shares or upon the happening of a specified event and any other terms or conditions of such conversion or exchange; and

if the shares are redeemable, the prices at which, and the terms and conditions on which, the shares of the series may be redeemed; and

any other preferences, powers and relative participating, optional or other special rights and qualifications, limitations or restrictions of shares of the series.

The preferred stock will, when issued, be fully paid and nonassessable and will have no preemptive rights. Unless otherwise stated in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of preferred stock, each series of preferred stock will rank on a parity as to dividends and distributions of assets with each other series of preferred stock. The rights of the holders of each series of preferred stock will be subordinate to those of our general creditors.

Dividend Rights of Preferred Stock

Holders of shares of preferred stock of each series will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board, out of funds legally available therefor, cash dividends on the dates and at rates as will be set forth in, or as are determined by the method described in, the prospectus supplement relating to that particular series of preferred stock. The rate may be fixed or variable or both. Each dividend will be payable to the holders of record as they appear on our stock books on the record dates fixed by our board, as specified in the prospectus supplement relating to that particular series of preferred stock.

Dividends may be cumulative or noncumulative, as provided in the prospectus supplement relating to that particular series of preferred stock. If our board fails to declare a dividend payable on a dividend payment date on any series of preferred stock for which dividends are noncumulative, then the holders of the series of preferred stock will have no right to receive a dividend in respect of the dividend period ending on the dividend payment date, and we will have no obligation to pay the dividend accrued for such period, whether or not dividends on the series are declared payable on any future dividend payment dates. Dividends on the shares of each series of preferred stock for which dividends are cumulative will accrue from the date on which we initially issue shares of each series.

So long as the shares of any series of preferred stock are outstanding, except as otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement relating to such series, we may not declare any dividends on our common stock or any other stock ranking as to dividends or distributions of assets junior to that particular series of preferred stock or make any payment on account of, or set apart money for, the purchase, redemption or other retirement of, or for a sinking or other analogous fund for, any shares of junior stock or make any distribution in respect thereof, whether in cash or property or in obligations or

Table of Contents

stock, other than junior stock which is neither convertible into, nor exchangeable or exercisable for, any securities other than junior stock:

unless, if the preferred stock is cumulative, full dividends for prior dividend periods shall have been paid or declared and set apart for payment on all outstanding shares of preferred stock of that particular series and all other series of our preferred stock (other than junior stock); and

unless we are not in default or in arrears with respect to the mandatory or optional redemption or mandatory repurchase or other mandatory retirement of, or with respect to any sinking or other analogous fund for, any shares of preferred stock of that particular series or any shares of any other series of our preferred stock (other than junior stock).

Liquidation Preference

In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us, voluntary or involuntary, the holders of each series of the preferred stock will be entitled to receive out of our assets legally available for distribution to stockholders, before any distribution of assets or payment is made to the holders of common stock or any other shares of our stock ranking junior as to such distribution or payment to such series of preferred stock, the amount set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such series of preferred stock. If, upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us, the amounts payable with respect to the preferred stock of any series and any other shares of preferred stock (including any other series of the preferred stock) ranking as to any such distribution on a parity with such series of preferred stock are not paid in full, the holders of the preferred stock of such series and of such other shares of preferred stock will share ratably in any such distribution of our assets in proportion to the full respective preferential amounts to which they are entitled. After payment to the holders of the preferred stock of each series of the full preferential amounts of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the holders of each such series of preferred stock will be entitled to no further participation in any distribution of our assets.

If such payment shall have been made in full to all holders of shares of preferred stock, our remaining assets will be distributed among the holders of any other classes of stock ranking junior to the preferred stock upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, according to their respective rights and preferences and in each case according to their respective number of shares. For such purposes, our consolidation or merger with or into any other corporation, or the sale, lease or conveyance of all or substantially all of our property or business, shall not be deemed to constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us.

In determining whether a distribution (other than upon voluntary or involuntary liquidation) by dividend, redemption or other acquisition of shares of our stock or otherwise is permitted under the MGCL, no effect shall be given to amounts that would be needed, if we would be dissolved at the time of the distribution, to satisfy the preferential rights upon dissolution of holders of shares of our stock whose preferential rights upon dissolution are superior to those receiving the distribution.

Redemption

A series of preferred stock may be redeemable, in whole or from time to time in part, at our option, and may be subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to a sinking fund or otherwise, in each case upon terms, at the times and at the redemption prices set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such series. Shares of the preferred stock redeemed by us will be restored to the status of authorized but unissued shares of preferred stock.

In the event that fewer than all of the outstanding shares of a series of the preferred stock are to be redeemed, whether by mandatory or optional redemption, the number of shares to be redeemed will be determined by lot or pro rata (subject to rounding to avoid fractional shares) as may be determined

Table of Contents

by us or by any other method as may be determined by us in our sole discretion to be equitable. From and after the redemption date (unless default shall be made by us in providing for the payment of the redemption price plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, if any), dividends shall cease to accumulate on the shares of the cumulative preferred stock called for redemption and all rights of the holders thereof (except the right to receive the redemption price plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, if any) shall cease.

So long as any dividends on shares of any series of preferred stock or any other series of preferred stock ranking on a parity as to dividends and distributions of assets with such series of preferred stock are in arrears, no shares of any such series of the preferred stock or such other series of preferred stock will be redeemed (whether by mandatory or optional redemption) unless all such shares are simultaneously redeemed, and we will not purchase or otherwise acquire any such shares. However, the foregoing will not prevent the purchase or acquisition of such shares of preferred stock of such series or of shares of such other series of preferred stock in order to ensure that we continue to meet the requirements for qualification as a REIT for federal and state income tax purposes or pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all outstanding shares of preferred stock of such series and, unless the full cumulative dividends on all outstanding shares of any cumulative preferred stock of such series and any other stock ranking on a parity with such series as to dividends and upon liquidation shall have been paid or contemporaneously are declared and paid for all past dividend periods, we will not purchase or otherwise acquire directly or indirectly any shares of preferred stock of such series (except by conversion into or exchange for our stock) ranking junior to the preferred stock of such series as to dividends and upon liquidation.

Notice of redemption will be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of record of shares of preferred stock to be redeemed at the address shown on our stock transfer books. After the redemption date, dividends will cease to accrue on the shares of preferred stock called for redemption and all rights of the holders of such shares will terminate, except the right to receive the redemption price without interest plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, if any.

Conversion Rights

The terms, if any, on which shares of preferred stock of any series may be exchanged for or converted (mandatorily or otherwise) into shares of common stock or another series of preferred stock (or any other securities) will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

Voting Rights

Except as indicated below or in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of preferred stock, the holders of the preferred stock will not be entitled to vote for any purpose.

So long as any shares of preferred stock remain outstanding, we will not, without the consent or the affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds of the shares of each series of preferred stock outstanding at the time given in person or by proxy, either in writing or at a meeting (such series voting separately as a class):

authorize, create or issue, or increase the authorized or issued amount of, any series of stock ranking prior to such series of preferred stock with respect to payment of dividends, or the distribution of assets on liquidation, dissolution or winding up or reclassifying any of our authorized stock into any such shares, or create, authorize or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any such shares; or

repeal, amend or otherwise change any of the provisions of our charter applicable to the preferred stock of such series in any manner which materially and adversely affects the powers,

Table of Contents

preferences, voting power or other rights or privileges of such series of preferred stock or the holders thereof; provided, however, that any increase in the amount of the authorized preferred stock or the creation or issuance of other series of preferred stock, or any increase in the amount of authorized shares of such series or of any other series of preferred stock, in each case ranking on a parity with or junior to the preferred stock of such series, shall not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers.

The foregoing voting provisions will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of the preferred stock shall have been redeemed or called for redemption and sufficient funds shall have been deposited in trust to effect such redemption.

Transfer and Ownership Restrictions Relating to Our Common Stock

Our charter contains restrictions on the ownership and transfer of our common stock that are intended to assist us in complying with the requirements to continue to qualify as a REIT.

Subject to limited exceptions, no person or entity may own, or be deemed to own by virtue of the applicable constructive ownership provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, more than 9.8% (by number or value of shares, whichever is more restrictive) of the outstanding shares of our common stock. Our board may, but is in no event required to, waive the applicable ownership limit with respect to a particular stockholder if it determines that such ownership will not jeopardize our status as a REIT and our board otherwise decides such action would be in our best interests.

These charter provisions further prohibit:

any person from actually or constructively owning shares of our stock that would result in our being "closely held" under Section 856(h) of the Internal Revenue Code or otherwise cause us to fail to qualify as a real estate investment trust (including but not limited to ownership that would result in us owning, actually or constructively, an interest in a tenant as described in Section 856(d)(2)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code if the income derived by us, either directly or indirectly, from such tenant would cause us to fail to satisfy any of the gross income requirements of Section 856(c) of the Internal Revenue Code); and

any person from transferring shares of our capital stock if such transfer would result in shares of our stock being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons (determined without reference to any rules of attribution).

Any person who acquires or attempts or intends to acquire actual or constructive ownership of shares of our stock that will or may violate any of these restrictions on ownership and transfer is required to give notice immediately to us and provide us with such other information as we may request in order to determine the effect of the transfer on our qualification as a REIT. Under our charter, if any purported transfer of our stock or any other event would otherwise result in any person violating the applicable ownership limit or such other limit as permitted by our board, then any such purported transfer is void and of no force or effect with respect to the purported transferee as to that number of shares of our stock in excess of the ownership limit or such other limit, and the transferee will acquire no right or interest in such excess shares. Any excess shares described above are transferred automatically, by operation of law, to a trust, the beneficiary of which is a qualified charitable organization selected by us. Such automatic transfer will be deemed to be effective as of the close of business on the business day prior to the date of such violative transfer. Within 20 days of receiving notice from us of the transfer of shares to the trust, the trustee of the trust is required to sell the excess shares to a person or entity who could own the shares without violating the applicable ownership limit, or such other limit as permitted by our board, and distribute to the prohibited transferee an amount equal to the lesser of the price paid by the prohibited transferee for the excess

Table of Contents

shares or the sales proceeds received by the trust for the excess shares. Any proceeds in excess of the amount distributable to the prohibited transferee are distributed to the beneficiary of the trust. Prior to a sale of any such excess shares by the trust, the trustee is entitled to receive, in trust for the beneficiary, all dividends and other distributions paid by us with respect to such excess shares, and also is entitled to exercise all voting rights with respect to such excess shares.

Subject to Maryland law, effective as of the date that such shares have been transferred to the trust, the trustee will have the authority, at the trustee's sole discretion:

to rescind as void any vote cast by a prohibited transferee prior to the discovery by us that the shares have been transferred to the trust; or

to recast such vote in accordance with the desires of the trustee acting for the benefit of the beneficiary of the trust.

However, if we have already taken irreversible corporate action, then the trustee will not have the authority to rescind and recast such vote. Any dividend or other distribution paid to the prohibited transferee, prior to the discovery by us that such shares had been automatically transferred to a trust as described above, are required to be repaid to the trustee upon demand for distribution to the beneficiary of the trust. In the event that the transfer to the trust as described above is not automatically effective, for any reason, to prevent violation of the ownership limit or such other limit as permitted by our board, then our charter provides that the transfer of the excess shares is void ab initio.

In addition, shares of common stock held in the trust shall be deemed to have been offered for sale to us, or our designee, at a price per share equal to the lesser of:

the price per share in the transaction that resulted in such transfer to the trust or, in the case of a devise or gift, the market price at the time of such devise or gift; and

the market price on the date we, or our designee, accepted the offer.

We will have the right to accept the offer until the trustee has sold the shares of stock held in the trust. Upon a sale to us, the interest of the beneficiary in the shares sold will terminate and the trustee will distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the prohibited transferee.

If any purported transfer of shares of common stock would cause us to be beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons, such transfer will be null and void ab initio in its entirety and the intended transferee will acquire no rights to the stock.

All certificates representing shares of common stock bear a legend referring to the restrictions described above. The foregoing ownership limitations could delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change in control of us that might involve a premium price for the common stock or otherwise be in the best interest of our stockholders.

In addition, if our board shall, at any time and in good faith, be of the opinion that direct or indirect ownership of at least 9.9% of the voting shares of capital stock has or may become concentrated in the hands of one beneficial owner, it shall have the power:

by lot or other means deemed equitable by it to call for the purchase from any stockholder of a number of voting shares sufficient, in the opinion of our board, to maintain or bring the direct or indirect ownership of voting shares of capital stock of the beneficial owner to a level of no more than 9.9% of our outstanding voting shares; and

to refuse to transfer or issue voting shares of capital stock to any person whose acquisition of such voting shares would, in the opinion of the board, result in the direct or indirect ownership by that person of more than 9.9% of the outstanding voting shares of our capital stock.

Table of Contents

If our board fails to grant an exemption from this 9.9% ownership limitation, then the transfer of shares, options, warrants, or other securities convertible into voting shares that would create a beneficial owner of more than 9.9% of the outstanding voting shares shall be deemed void ab initio, and the intended transferee shall be deemed never to have had an interest in the transferred securities. The purchase price for any voting shares of capital stock so redeemed shall be equal to the fair market value of the shares reflected in the closing sales price for the shares, if then listed on a national securities exchange, or the average of the closing sales prices for the shares if then listed on more than one national securities exchange, or if the shares are not then listed on a national securities exchange, the latest bid quotation for the shares if then traded over-the-counter, on the last business day immediately preceding the day on which we send notices of such acquisitions, or, if no such closing sales prices or quotations are available, then the purchase price shall be equal to the net asset value of such stock as determined by the board in accordance with the provisions of applicable law. From and after the date fixed for purchase by the board, the holder of any shares so called for purchase shall cease to be entitled to distributions, voting rights and other benefits with respect to such shares, except the right to payment of the purchase price for the shares.

Business Combination Provisions

Our charter requires that, except in some circumstances, "business combinations" between us and a beneficial holder of 10% or more of our outstanding voting stock (a "Related Person") be approved by the affirmative vote of at least 90% of our outstanding voting shares. A "business combination" is defined in our charter as:

any merger or consolidation with or into a Related Person;

any sale, lease, exchange, transfer or other disposition, including without limitation a mortgage or any other security device, of all or any "Substantial Part" (as defined below) of our assets, including any voting securities of a subsidiary, to a Related Person;

any merger or consolidation of a Related Person with or into us;

any sale, lease, exchange, transfer or other disposition of all or any Substantial Part of the assets of a Related Person to us;

the issuance of any of our securities, other than by way of pro rata distribution to all stockholders, to a Related Person; and

any agreement, contract or other arrangement providing for any of the transactions described above.

The term "Substantial Part" means more than 10% of the book value of our total assets as of the end of our most recent fiscal year ending prior to the time the determination is being made.

In addition to the restrictions on business combinations contained in our charter, Maryland law also contains restrictions on business combinations. See "Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and HCP's Charter and Bylaws Business Combinations."

The foregoing provisions may have the effect of discouraging unilateral tender offers or other takeover proposals which stockholders might deem to be in their interests or in which they might receive a substantial premium. Our board's authority to issue and establish the terms of currently authorized preferred stock, without stockholder approval, may also have the effect of discouraging takeover attempts. See " Preferred Stock."

The foregoing provisions could also have the effect of insulating current management against the possibility of removal and could, by possibly reducing temporary fluctuations in market price caused by accumulations of shares of our common stock, deprive stockholders of opportunities to sell at a

Table of Contents

temporarily higher market price. Our board believes, however, that inclusion of the business combination provisions in our charter may help assure fair treatment of our stockholders and preserve our assets.

Transfer and Ownership Restrictions Relating to Our Preferred Stock

Our charter may contain restrictions on the ownership and transfer of preferred stock that are intended to assist us in complying with the requirements to maintain our qualification as a REIT. Subject to limited exceptions, unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of the preferred stock, no person or entity may own, or be deemed to own by virtue of the applicable constructive ownership provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, more than 9.8% (by number or value of shares, whichever is more restrictive) of the outstanding shares of such series of preferred stock. Our board may, but in no event will be required to, waive the applicable ownership limit with respect to a particular stockholder if it determines that such ownership will not jeopardize our qualification as a REIT and our board otherwise decides such action would be in our best interests. The mechanics for the ownership limits on our preferred stock will be similar to the mechanics related to our common stock, as described in "Transfer and Ownership Restrictions Relating to Our Common Stock" above, unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of the preferred stock.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

General

We may offer fractional shares of preferred stock, rather than full shares of preferred stock. If we do so, we may issue receipts for depositary shares that each represent a fraction of a share of a particular series of preferred stock. The prospectus supplement will indicate that fraction. The shares of preferred stock represented by depositary shares will be deposited under one or more depositary agreement between us and a bank or trust company that meets certain requirements and is selected by us (the "bank depositary"). Each owner of a depositary share will be entitled to all the rights and preferences of the preferred stock represented by the depositary share. The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued pursuant to the depositary agreement. Depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional shares of preferred stock in accordance with the terms of the offering.

We have summarized some common provisions of a depositary agreement and the related depositary receipts. The description in the applicable prospectus supplement of any depositary shares we offer will not necessarily be complete and will be qualified in its entirety by reference to the applicable depositary agreement and the depositary receipts relating to any particular issue of depositary shares, which will be filed with the SEC if we offer depositary shares. For more information on how you can obtain copies of any depositary agreement and the depositary receipts if we offer depositary shares, see "Where You Can Find More Information." We urge you to read the applicable depositary agreement and the depositary receipts relating to any particular issue of depositary shares and any applicable prospectus supplement in their entirety.

Dividends and Other Distributions

If we pay a cash distribution or dividend on a series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares, the bank depositary will distribute such dividends to the record holders of such depositary shares. If the distributions are in property other than cash, the bank depositary will distribute the property to the record holders of the depositary shares. However, if the bank depositary determines that it is not feasible to make the distribution of property, the bank depositary may, with our approval, sell such property and distribute the net proceeds from such sale to the record holders of the depositary shares.

Redemption of Depositary Shares

If we redeem a series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares, the bank depositary will redeem the depositary shares from the proceeds received by the bank depositary in connection with the redemption. The redemption price per depositary share will equal the applicable fraction of the redemption price per share of the preferred stock. If fewer than all the depositary shares are redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by lot or pro rata as the bank depositary may determine.

Voting the Preferred Stock

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the preferred stock represented by depositary shares are entitled to vote, the bank depositary will mail the notice to the record holders of the depositary shares relating to such preferred stock. Each record holder of these depositary shares on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock, may instruct the bank depositary as to how to vote the preferred stock represented by such holder's depositary shares. The bank depositary will endeavor, insofar as practicable, to vote the amount of the preferred stock represented by such depositary shares in accordance with such instructions, and we will take all action that the bank depositary deems necessary in order to enable the bank depositary to do so. The

Table of Contents

bank depositary will abstain from voting shares of the preferred stock to the extent it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary shares representing such preferred stock.

Amendment and Termination of the Depositary Agreement

The form of depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares and any provision of the depositary agreement may be amended by agreement between the bank depositary and us. However, any amendment that materially and adversely alters the rights of the holders of depositary shares will not be effective unless such amendment has been approved by the holders of at least a majority of the depositary shares then outstanding. The depositary agreement may be terminated by the bank depositary or us only if (i) all outstanding depositary shares have been redeemed or (ii) there has been a final distribution in respect of the preferred stock in connection with any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our Company and such distribution has been distributed to the holders of depositary receipts.

Charges of Bank Depositary

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the depositary arrangements. We will pay charges of the bank depositary in connection with the initial deposit of the preferred stock and any redemption of the preferred stock. Holders of depositary receipts will pay other transfer and other taxes and governmental charges and any other charges, including a fee for the withdrawal of shares of preferred stock upon surrender of depositary receipts, as are expressly provided in the depositary agreement.

Withdrawal of Preferred Stock

Except as may be provided otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, upon surrender of depositary receipts at the principal office of the bank depositary, subject to the terms of the depositary agreement, the owner of the depositary shares may demand delivery of the number of whole shares of preferred stock and all money and other property, if any, represented by those depositary shares. Partial shares of preferred stock will not be issued. If the depositary receipts delivered by the holder evidence a number of depositary shares in excess of the number of depositary shares representing the number of whole shares of preferred stock to be withdrawn, the bank depositary will deliver to such holder at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares. Holders of preferred stock thus withdrawn may not thereafter deposit those shares under the depositary agreement or receive depositary receipts evidencing depositary shares therefor.

Miscellaneous

The bank depositary will forward to holders of depositary receipts all reports and communications from us that are delivered to the bank depositary and that we are required to furnish to the holders of the preferred stock.

Neither the bank depositary nor we will be liable if we are prevented or delayed by law or any circumstance beyond our control in performing our obligations under the depositary agreement. The obligations of the bank depositary and us under the depositary agreement will be limited to performance in good faith of our duties thereunder, and we will not be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depositary shares or preferred stock unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. We may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants, or upon information provided by persons presenting preferred stock for deposit, holders of depositary receipts or other persons believed to be competent and on documents believed to be genuine.

Table of Contents

Resignation and Removal of Bank Depositary

The bank depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its election to do so, and we may at any time remove the bank depositary. Any such resignation or removal will take effect upon the appointment of a successor bank depositary and its acceptance of such appointment. The successor bank depositary must be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and must be a bank or trust company meeting the requirements of the depositary agreement.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We may offer debt securities, which may be senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities and may be convertible or non-convertible, as well as secured or unsecured.

This prospectus describes certain general terms and provisions of the debt securities. The particular terms of the debt securities offered by any prospectus supplement and the extent, if any, to which these general provisions may apply to the debt securities, will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. We will issue debt securities under an indenture dated as of November 19, 2012 between us and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, as supplemented from time to time (the "indenture"). The indenture is subject to and governed by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the "TIA").

The following summary of the material provisions of the indenture and the debt securities is not complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, all of the provisions of the indenture. We urge you to read the indenture, because it, and not the summary below, defines your rights as a holder of debt securities. You can obtain a copy of the indenture by following the directions described in the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information." Capitalized terms used in the summary below have the meanings specified in the indenture. As used in this section, references to "HCP," "the Company," "we," "us" or "our" mean only HCP, Inc., and do not include any current or future subsidiary of, or other entity controlled by, HCP, except as otherwise indicated.

General

The aggregate principal amount of debt securities that may be issued under the indenture is unlimited. The prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus we may provide you, as the case may be, relating to any series of debt securities that we may offer will contain the specific terms of the debt securities. These terms may include the following:

the title and aggregate principal amount of the debt securities and any limit on the aggregate principal amount;

whether the debt securities will be senior or subordinated;

whether the debt securities will be secured or unsecured and the terms of any securities agreement or arrangement;

any applicable subordination provisions for any subordinated debt securities;

the maturity date(s) or method for determining the same;

the interest rate(s) or method for determining the same;

the dates on which interest will accrue or the method for determining dates on which interest will accrue and dates on which interest will be payable and whether interest shall be payable in cash or additional securities;

whether the debt securities are convertible or exchangeable into other securities and any related terms and conditions;

redemption or early repayment provisions, including at our option or at the option of the holders;

authorized denominations;

if other than the aggregate outstanding principal amount, the principal amount of debt securities payable upon acceleration;

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Table of Contents

place(s) where payment of principal and interest may be made, where debt securities may be presented and where notices or demands upon the Company may be made;

whether such debt securities will be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities and the date as of which the securities are dated if other than the date of original issuance;

amount of discount or premium, if any, with which such debt securities will be issued;

any covenants applicable to the particular debt securities being issued;

any additions or changes in the defaults and events of default applicable to the particular debt securities being issued;

the guarantors of each series, if any, and the extent of the guarantees (including provisions relating to seniority, subordination and release of the guarantees), if any;

the currency, currencies or currency units in which the purchase price for, the principal of and any premium and any interest on, such debt securities will be payable;

the time period within which, the manner in which and the terms and conditions upon which the holders of the debt securities or the Company can select the payment currency;

our obligation or right to redeem, purchase or repay debt securities under a sinking fund, amortization or analogous provision;

any restriction or conditions on the transferability of the debt securities;

provisions granting special rights to holders of the debt securities upon occurrence of specified events;

additions or changes relating to compensation or reimbursement of the trustee of the series of debt securities;

additions or changes to the provisions for the defeasance of the debt securities or to provisions related to satisfaction and discharge of the indenture;

additions or changes to the provisions relating to the modification of the indenture both with and without the consent of holders of debt securities issued under the indenture and the execution of supplemental indentures for such series; and

any other terms of the debt securities (which terms shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of the TIA, but may modify, amend, supplement or delete any of the terms of the indenture with respect to such series of debt securities).

We may sell the debt securities, including original issue discount securities, at par or at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. Unless we inform you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we may issue additional debt securities of a particular series without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of such series or any other series outstanding at the time of issuance. Any such additional debt

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securities, together with all other outstanding debt securities of that series, may constitute a single series of securities under the indenture.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement any other special considerations for any debt securities we sell which are denominated in a currency or currency unit other than U.S. dollars. In addition, debt securities may be issued where the amount of principal and/or interest payable is determined by reference to one or more currency exchange rates, commodity prices, equity indices or other factors. Holders of such securities may receive a principal amount or a payment of interest that is greater than or less than the amount of principal or interest otherwise payable on such dates, depending upon the value of the applicable currencies, commodities, equity indices or other factors. We

Table of Contents

will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement information as to the methods for determining the amount of principal or interest, if any, payable on any date, the currencies, commodities, equity indices or other factors to which the amount payable on such date is linked.

U.S. federal income tax consequences and special considerations, if any, applicable to any such series will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless we inform you otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not be listed on any securities exchange.

We expect most debt securities to be issued in fully registered form without coupons and in denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. Subject to the limitations provided in the indenture and in the prospectus supplement, debt securities that are issued in registered form may be transferred or exchanged at the designated corporate trust office of the trustee, without the payment of any service charge, other than any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Global Securities

Unless we inform you otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depository identified in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, as the case may be, relating to such series. Global securities will be issued in registered form and in either temporary or definitive form. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for the individual debt securities, a global security may not be transferred except as a whole by the depository for such global security to a nominee of such depository or by a nominee of such depository to such depository or another nominee of such depository or by such depository or any such nominee to a successor of such depository or a nominee of such successor.

The specific terms of the depository arrangement with respect to any debt securities of a series and the rights of and limitations upon owners of beneficial interests in a global security will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, as the case may be, applicable to such series. We anticipate that the following provisions will generally apply to depository arrangements.

Upon the issuance of a global security, the depository will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the participants' accounts with the respective principal amounts of the debt securities represented by such global security beneficially owned by such participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in the global securities will be shown on, and the transfer of such ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by the depository (with respect to interests of participants) and records maintained by the depository's direct and indirect participants (with respect to the interests of beneficial owners). The laws of some states may require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of such securities in definitive form. Such laws may limit or impair the ability to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in the global securities.

So long as the depository or its nominee is the registered owner of a global security, the depository or its nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by such global security for all purposes under the indenture. Except as set forth below, owners of beneficial interests in a global security will not be entitled to have the debt securities represented by such global security registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of such debt securities in certificated form and will not be considered the registered owners or holders thereof under the indenture. Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a global security must rely on the procedures of the depository and, if such person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which such person owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a holder under the indenture. We understand that under existing industry practices, if we request any action of holders or if an owner of a beneficial interest in a global security desires to give or take any action that a holder is entitled to give or take under the indenture, the depository would authorize

Table of Contents

the participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to give or take such action, and such participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through such participants to give or to take such action or would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners holding through them.

Principal and interest payments on interests represented by a global security will be made to the depository or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owner of such global security. None of the trustee, us or any other agent of the trustee or agent of ours will have any responsibility or liability for any facet of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership of interests. We expect that the depository or its nominee, upon receipt of any payment of principal or interest in respect of a global security, will immediately credit participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in such global security as shown on the records of the depository. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the global securities held through such participants will be governed by standing customer instructions and customary practice, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such participants.

If the depository is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depository or if the depository shall cease to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, and we fail to appoint a successor depository registered as a clearing agency under the Exchange Act within 90 days, we will issue debt securities in definitive form in exchange for the respective global securities. In addition, the owner of a beneficial interest in a global security will be entitled to receive debt securities in definitive certificated form in exchange for such beneficial interest if an event of default with respect to the debt securities has occurred and is continuing. Any debt securities issued in definitive form in exchange for the global securities will be registered in such name or names, and will be issued in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof, as the depository shall instruct the trustee. It is expected that such instructions will be based upon directions received by the depository from participants with respect to the ownership of beneficial interests in the global securities.

Merger, Consolidation and Sale of Assets

We may not consolidate or merge with or into or sell, convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our assets to another entity unless we are the continuing entity or the successor, transferee or lessee entity (if other than us) is organized and existing under the laws of the United States or any state thereof and expressly assumes our obligations under the indenture and the debt securities under the indenture and, immediately after giving effect to the transaction, we or the successor, transferee or lessee entity (if other than us) would not be in default in the performance of any covenant or condition of the indenture or the debt securities and no event of default would have occurred and be continuing.

Events of Default and Related Matters

Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following are "events of default" under the indenture with respect to any series of debt securities:

failure to pay any interest on the debt securities of such series when due, continuing for 30 days;

failure to pay principal of or any premium on the debt securities of such series when due;

failure to pay a sinking fund installment, if any, when and as the same shall become payable by the terms of the debt securities of such series;

failure to perform any covenants or agreements in the indenture (including any supplemental indenture or officer's certificate pursuant to which the debt securities of such series were issued) (other than a covenant or agreement which has been expressly included in the indenture solely for the benefit of a series of debt securities other than that series and other than a covenant or

Table of Contents

agreement a default in the performance of which is elsewhere specifically addressed in the indenture), continued for 60 days after written notice by the trustee to us or by the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of such series then outstanding to us;

certain specified events under bankruptcy, insolvency or other similar laws with respect to us; or

the occurrence of any other event of default with respect to debt securities of such series.

If an event of default with respect to any series of debt securities at the time outstanding (other than an event of default relating to certain specified events under bankruptcy, insolvency or similar laws) occurs and is continuing, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series may declare the principal amount of and all accrued but unpaid interest on all the outstanding debt securities of such series to be due and payable immediately. If an event of default relating to certain specified events under bankruptcy, insolvency or similar laws occurs and is continuing, then the principal amount of and all accrued but unpaid interest on all the outstanding debt securities of such series shall automatically become due and payable immediately without any acceleration or other action on the part of the trustee or the holders of the debt securities of such series. At any time after a declaration of acceleration with respect to the debt securities of a series has been made, but before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series may, under certain circumstances, rescind and annul the acceleration.

The indenture provides that within 90 days after the occurrence thereof, and if known to the trustee, the trustee will give the holders of any series of debt securities notice of each event which is or, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an event of default with respect to the debt securities of such series known to the trustee, unless such default has been cured or waived before the giving of such notice. Except in the case of a default or event of default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any series of debt securities, the trustee shall be protected in withholding the notice if the trustee in good faith determines that the withholding of the notice is in the interest of the holders of outstanding debt securities of such series.

The indenture provides that, subject to the duty of the trustee during the continuance of an event of default to act with the required standard of care, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request, order or direction of any of the holders of any series of debt securities, unless the holders shall have offered to the trustee security or indemnity reasonably satisfactory to the trustee. Subject to such provisions for the indemnification of the trustee and subject to certain other limitations, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceedings for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee, with respect to the debt securities of such series.

We are required to furnish to the trustee annually a statement as to our compliance with all conditions and covenants under the indenture and as to any default in our performance.

Satisfaction and Discharge of Indenture

The indenture, with respect to any series of debt securities (except for certain surviving obligations specified therein), will cease to be of further effect upon the satisfaction of certain conditions, including the payment in full of the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities of such series or the deposit with the trustee of an amount of cash sufficient for the payment or redemption of the debt securities of such series, in accordance with the indenture.

Table of Contents

Discharge and Defeasance

At our option, either (a) we shall be discharged from our obligations with respect to the debt securities of a series (subject to survival of certain limited provisions in the indenture) or (b) we will cease to be under any obligation to comply with certain covenants described in the indenture relating to the maintenance of insurance and the filing and transmission of reports with respect to the debt securities of a series (and, if so specified pursuant to the indenture, any other restrictive covenant added for the benefit of such series of debt securities), in either case by depositing in trust with the trustee cash or U.S. government obligations (or a combination thereof) sufficient to pay the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities of such series to their maturity or redemption date in accordance with the terms of the indenture and the debt securities of such series.

Modification of an Indenture

The indenture provides that we and the trustee may, without the consent of any holders of any series of debt securities issued under the indenture, enter into supplemental indentures for the purposes, among other things, of:

adding to the covenants or events of default for the protection or benefit of holders of all or any series of debt securities or surrendering any right or power conferred upon us;

deleting or modifying any events of default with respect to any series of debt securities, the form and terms of which are being established pursuant to such supplemental indenture;

changing or eliminating any provisions of the indenture so long as there are no holders entitled to the benefit of such provisions;

providing for the assumption by a successor corporation of our covenants and obligations contained in the debt securities of one or more series and in the indenture or any supplemental indenture;

providing for the appointment of a successor trustee under the indenture;

securing the debt securities of any series;

curing ambiguities or inconsistencies in the indenture, correcting or supplementing any provision which may be defective or inconsistent with any other provision, and conforming the terms of the indenture applicable to the debt securities of any series to the description of the terms of such debt securities in the applicable offering memorandum, prospectus supplement or other offering document;

complying with amendments to the TIA;

adding guarantors or co-obligors or to release guarantors from their guarantees with respect to the debt securities of any series;

making any change in any series of debt securities that does not adversely affect in any material respect the rights of holders of such debt securities;

to supplement any of the provisions of the indenture to the extent necessary to permit or facilitate the defeasance and discharge of any series of debt securities; provided that any such action shall not adversely affect the interests of the holders

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of the debt securities of such series or any other series of debt securities; or

establishing the form and terms of the debt securities of any series as permitted by the indenture and authorizing the issuance of additional debt securities of a series previously authorized.

Table of Contents

With specific exceptions, the indenture or the rights of the holders of any series of debt securities may be modified by us and the trustee with the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series voting separately, but no modification may be made without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security of such series that, among other things, would:

extend the maturity of any payment of principal of or any installment of interest on the debt securities of such series;

reduce the principal amount of any debt security, or the interest thereon, or any premium payable on any debt security;

change any place of payment where, or the currency in which, any debt security or any premium or interest is denominated or payable;

change the ranking of the debt securities of any series;

impair the right to sue for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to any debt security; or

reduce the percentage in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of any series required to consent to any supplemental indenture, any waiver of compliance with provisions of the indenture or certain defaults and their consequences provided for in the indenture, reduce the requirements of the indenture for quorum or voting or otherwise modify the sections in the indenture relating to these consents and waivers.

Governing Law

The indenture and the debt securities shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of New York. The indenture provides that we, the trustee and the holders of the debt securities waive, to the extent permitted by applicable law, the right to trial by jury in respect of any litigation in connection with the indenture.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants for the purchase of debt securities, preferred stock, common stock or other securities. We may issue warrants independently or together with any offered securities. The warrants may be attached to or separate from those offered securities. We will issue the warrants under one or more warrant agreements to be entered into between us and a warrant agent to be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants.

The prospectus supplement relating to any warrants that we may offer will contain the specific terms of the warrants. These terms may include the following:

the title of the warrants;

the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;

the designation, amount and terms of the securities for which the warrants are exercisable;

the designation and terms of the other securities, if any, with which the warrants are to be issued and the number of warrants issued with each other security;

the aggregate number of warrants;

any provisions for adjustment of the number or amount of securities receivable upon exercise of the warrants or the exercise price of the warrants;

the price or prices at which the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased;

if applicable, the date on and after which the warrants and the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants will be separately transferable;

a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to the exercise of the warrants;

the date on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence, and the date on which the right will expire;

the maximum or minimum number of warrants that may be exercised at any time;

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any; and

any other terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants.

Exercise of Warrants

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Each warrant will entitle the holder of the warrant to purchase for cash the amount of debt securities, preferred stock, common stock or other securities at the exercise price stated or determinable in the applicable prospectus supplement for the warrants. Warrants may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date shown in the applicable prospectus supplement, unless otherwise specified in such prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised warrants will become void. Warrants may be exercised as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. When the warrant holder makes the payment and properly completes and signs the warrant certificate at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as possible, forward the debt securities, preferred stock, common stock or other securities that the warrant holder has purchased. If

Table of Contents

the warrant holder exercises the warrant for less than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificate, we will issue a new warrant certificate for the remaining outstanding warrants.

The description in the applicable prospectus supplement of any warrants we offer will not necessarily be complete and will be qualified in its entirety by reference to the applicable warrant agreement and warrant certificate, which will be filed with the SEC if we offer warrants. For more information on how you can obtain copies of any warrant certificate or warrant agreement if we offer warrants, see "Where You Can Find More Information." We urge you to read the applicable warrant certificate, the applicable warrant agreement and any applicable prospectus supplement in their entirety.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND HCP'S CHARTER AND BYLAWS

The following description summarizes certain provisions of Maryland law and of our charter and bylaws. This summary is not complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, our charter, our bylaws and applicable provisions of the MGCL. For a complete description, we refer you to the MGCL, our charter and our bylaws. We have incorporated by reference our charter and bylaws as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Election of Directors

Our bylaws provide that our board may establish, increase or decrease the number of directors, provided that the number thereof shall never be less than three nor more than eleven. Our bylaws also provide for the election of directors, in uncontested elections, by a majority of the votes cast. In contested elections, the election of directors shall be by a plurality of the votes cast. Holders of common stock have no right to cumulative voting for the election of directors. Consequently, at each annual meeting of stockholders, the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock can elect all of our directors. A vacancy resulting from an increase in the number of directors may be filled by a majority vote of the entire board or by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our shares then entitled to vote at an election of directors. Other vacancies may be filled by the vote of a majority of the remaining directors.

Removal of Directors

Our charter provides that a director of ours may be removed by the affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds of the outstanding shares of our voting stock or by a unanimous vote of all other directors. Our stockholders may elect a successor to fill any vacancy which results from the removal of a director.

Business Combinations

Under Maryland law, "business combinations" between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange, or, in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as:

any person who beneficially owns ten percent or more of the voting power of the corporation's shares; or

an affiliate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of ten percent or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between the Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation; and

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or which are held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

Table of Contents

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the corporation's common stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares. None of these provisions of Maryland law will apply, however, to business combinations that are approved or exempted by the board of the corporation prior to the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder.

In addition to the restrictions on business combinations provided under Maryland law, our charter also contains restrictions on business combinations. See "Description of Capital Stock Business Combination Provisions."

Control Share Acquisitions

Maryland law provides that holders of "control shares" of a Maryland corporation acquired in a "control share acquisition" have no voting rights with respect to the control shares except to the extent approved by a vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Shares of stock owned by the acquiror, by officers or by directors who are employees of the corporation are excluded from shares entitled to vote on the matter. "Control shares" are voting shares of stock which, if aggregated with all other shares of stock owned by the acquiror or shares of stock for which the acquiror is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy, would entitle the acquiror to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power:

one-tenth or more but less than one-third;

one-third or more but less than a majority; or

a majority or more of all voting power.

Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. Except as otherwise specified in the statute, a "control share acquisition" means the acquisition of control shares.

Once a person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition has undertaken to pay expenses and satisfied other conditions, the person may compel the board to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by the statute, then the corporation may be able to redeem any or all of the control shares for fair value, except for control shares for which voting rights previously have been approved. The right of the corporation to redeem control shares is subject to certain conditions and limitations. Fair value is determined without regard to the absence of voting rights for control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquiror or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of control shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquiror becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of these appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition. Some of the limitations and restrictions otherwise applicable to the exercise of dissenters' rights do not apply in the context of a control share acquisition.

The control share acquisition statute does not apply to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transaction or to acquisitions approved or

Table of Contents

exempted by the charter or bylaws of the corporation. Our bylaws contain a provision exempting acquisitions of shares of our stock from the control share acquisition statute. However, our board may amend our bylaws in the future to repeal or modify this exemption, in which case any control shares of our company acquired in a control share acquisition will be subject to the control share acquisition statute.

Unsolicited Takeovers

Under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation with a class of equity securities registered under the Exchange Act and at least three independent directors may elect to be subject to certain statutory provisions relating to unsolicited takeovers which, among other things, would automatically classify the board into three classes with staggered terms of three years each and vest in the board the exclusive right to determine the number of directors and the exclusive right, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors, to fill vacancies on the board, even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum. These statutory provisions relating to unsolicited takeovers also provide that any director elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the remainder of the full term of the class of directors in which the vacancy occurred, rather than the next annual meeting of directors as would otherwise be the case, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

An election to be subject to any or all of the foregoing statutory provisions may be made in our charter or bylaws, or by resolution of our board without stockholder approval. Any such statutory provision to which we elect to be subject will apply even if other provisions of Maryland law or our charter or bylaws provide to the contrary. Neither our charter nor our bylaws provides that we are subject to any of the foregoing statutory provisions relating to unsolicited takeovers. However, our board could adopt a resolution, without stockholder approval, to elect to become subject to some or all of these statutory provisions.

If we made an election to be subject to such statutory provisions and our board were divided into three classes with staggered terms of office of three years each, the classification and staggered terms of office of our directors would make it more difficult for a third party to gain control of our board since at least two annual meetings of stockholders, instead of one, generally would be required to effect a change in the majority of our board.

Amendments to the Charter

Provisions of our charter on business combinations, the number of directors and certain ownership restrictions may be amended only if approved by our board and by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all of the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter. Other amendments to our charter require approval by our board and approval by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter.

Amendment to the Bylaws

Provisions of our bylaws on the number of directors, in certain circumstances, and the vote required to amend the bylaws may be amended only by unanimous vote of the board or by the affirmative vote of not less than 90% of all of the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter. Other amendments to our bylaws require the affirmative vote of a majority of the entire board or the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all of the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter.

Table of Contents

Dissolution of HCP, Inc.

Our dissolution must be approved by our board by a majority vote of the entire board and by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders on the matter.

Advance Notice of Director Nominations and New Business; Procedures of Special Meetings Requested by Stockholders

Our bylaws provide that nominations of persons for election to the board and the proposal of business to be considered by stockholders at the annual or special meeting of stockholders may be made only:

pursuant to our notice of the meeting;

by or at the direction of the board; or

by a stockholder who was a stockholder at the time the notice of meeting was given and is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has complied with the advance notice procedures, including the minimum time period, described in the bylaws.

Our bylaws also provide that only the business specified in our notice of meeting may be brought before a special meeting of stockholders. Our bylaws provide that our stockholders have the right to call a special meeting only upon the written request of the stockholders holding in the aggregate not less than 50% of the outstanding shares entitled to vote on the business proposed to be transacted at such meeting.

Proxy Access

Our bylaws permit any stockholder or group of up to ten stockholders who have maintained continuous qualifying ownership of 5% or more of our outstanding common stock for at least the previous three years to include up to a specified number of director nominees in our proxy materials for an annual meeting of stockholders. A nominating stockholder is considered to own only the shares for which the stockholder possesses the full voting and investment rights and the full economic interest (including the opportunity for profit and risk of loss). Under this provision, borrowed or hedged shares do not count as "owned" shares. Further, to the extent not otherwise excluded pursuant to this definition of ownership, a nominating stockholder's "short position" as defined in Rule 14e-4 under the Exchange Act is deducted from the shares otherwise "owned." If a group of stockholders is aggregating its shareholdings in order to meet the 5% ownership requirement, the ownership of the group will be determined by aggregating the lowest number of shares continuously owned by each member during the three-year holding period.

The maximum number of stockholder nominees permitted under the proxy access provisions of our bylaws shall not exceed 20% of the directors in office as of the last day a notice of nomination may be timely received. If the 20% calculation does not result in a whole number, the maximum number of stockholder nominees is the closest whole number below 20%. If one or more vacancies occurs for any reason after the nomination deadline and our board decides to reduce the size of our board in connection therewith, the 20% calculation will be applied to the reduced size of the board, with the potential result that a stockholder nominee may be disqualified. Stockholder-nominated candidates whose nomination is withdrawn or whom the board determines to include in our proxy materials as board-nominated candidates will be counted against the 20% maximum. In addition, any director in office as of the nomination deadline who was included in our proxy materials as a stockholder nominee for either of the two preceding annual meetings and whom our board decides to renominate for election to the board also will be counted against the 20% maximum.

Table of Contents

Notice of a nomination pursuant to the proxy access provisions of our bylaws must be received no earlier than 150 days and no later than 120 days before the anniversary of the date that we distributed our proxy statement for the previous year's annual meeting of stockholders.

A stockholder nominee will not be eligible for inclusion in our proxy materials if any stockholder has nominated a person pursuant to the advance notice provision of our bylaws, if the nominee would not be independent, if the nominee's election would cause us to violate our bylaws, our charter or any applicable listing standards, laws, rules or regulations, if the nominee is or has been an officer or director of a competitor, as defined in Section 8 of the Clayton Antitrust Act of 1914, within the past three years, or if the nominee or the stockholder who nominated him or her has provided false and misleading information to us or otherwise breached any of its or their obligations, representations or agreements under the proxy access provisions of our bylaws. Stockholder nominees who are included in our proxy materials but subsequently withdraw from or become ineligible for election at the meeting or do not receive at least 25% of the votes cast in the election will be ineligible for nomination under the proxy access provisions of our bylaws for the next two years. A nomination made under the proxy access provisions of our bylaws will be disregarded at the annual meeting under certain circumstances described in our bylaws.

Anti-Takeover Effect of Provisions of Maryland Law and of the Charter and Bylaws

The provisions in the charter on removal of directors and business combinations, the business combinations and control share acquisition provisions of Maryland law, the unsolicited takeover provisions of Maryland law (if we elect to become subject to such provisions) and the provisions of our bylaws relating to advance notice, proxy access and stockholder-requested special meetings may delay, defer or prevent a change of control or other transaction in which holders of some, or a majority, of the common stock might receive a premium for their common stock over the then prevailing market price or which such holders might believe to be otherwise in their best interests.

Limitation of Liability and Indemnification

Maryland law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages. However, a Maryland corporation may not limit liability resulting from actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services. Also, liability resulting from active and deliberate dishonesty may not be eliminated if a final judgment establishes that the dishonesty is material to the cause of action. Our charter contains a provision which limits the liability of directors and officers for money damages to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law. This provision does not limit our right or that of our stockholders to obtain equitable relief, such as an injunction or rescission.

Our bylaws obligate us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, to indemnify and, without requiring a preliminary determination as to the ultimate entitlement to indemnification, to pay or reimburse reasonable expenses before final disposition of a proceeding to:

any present or former director or officer who is made a party to the proceeding by reason of his service in that capacity; or

any individual who, while one of our directors or officers and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or any other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee of such corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan, or other enterprise and who is made a party to the proceeding by reason of his service in that capacity.

The bylaws authorize us, with the approval of our board, to provide indemnification and advancement of expenses to our agents and employees.

Table of Contents

Unless limited by a corporation's charter, Maryland law requires a corporation to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which he is made a party by reason of his service in that capacity, or in the defense of any claim, issue or matter in the proceeding. Our charter does not alter this requirement.

Maryland law permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against:

judgments;

penalties;

finest;

settlements; and

reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities.

Maryland law does not permit a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers if it is established that:

the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and was committed in bad faith or was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty;

the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services; or

in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful.

Under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation generally may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation. Also, a Maryland corporation generally may not indemnify for a judgment of liability on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received. In either of these cases, a Maryland corporation may indemnify for expenses only if a court so orders.

Maryland law permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer. First, however, the corporation must receive a written affirmation by the director or officer of his good faith belief that he has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation. The corporation must also receive a written undertaking, either by the director or officer or on his behalf, to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it shall ultimately be determined that the standard of conduct was not met. The termination of any proceeding by conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, or an entry of any order of probation prior to judgment, creates a rebuttable presumption that the director or officer did not meet the requisite standard of conduct required for indemnification to be permitted.

It is the position of the Commission that indemnification of directors and officers for liabilities arising under the Securities Act is against public policy and is unenforceable pursuant to Section 14 of the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

SELLING SECURITY HOLDERS

Information about selling security holders, where applicable, will be set forth in a prospectus supplement, in a post-effective amendment, or in filings we make with the SEC under the Exchange Act which are incorporated by reference.

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following is a summary of U.S. federal income tax considerations generally applicable to our election to be taxed as a REIT and the ownership and disposition of certain of the securities offered by this prospectus. This summary does not purport to be a complete analysis of all of the potential tax considerations relating thereto. This summary is based on current law, is for general information only and is not tax advice. As used in this section, references to "HCP," "the Company," "we," "us" or "our," mean only HCP, Inc., and not its subsidiaries, except as otherwise indicated.

The information in this summary is based on:

the Internal Revenue Code;

current, temporary and proposed Treasury Regulations promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code;

the legislative history of the Internal Revenue Code;

current administrative interpretations and practices of the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS; and

court decisions;

in each case, as of the date of this prospectus. In addition, the administrative interpretations and practices of the IRS include its practices and policies as expressed in private letter rulings that are not binding on the IRS except with respect to the particular taxpayers who requested and received those rulings. Future legislation, Treasury Regulations, administrative interpretations and practices and/or court decisions may change or adversely affect the tax considerations described in this prospectus. Any such change could apply retroactively to transactions preceding the date of the change. We have not requested and do not intend to request a ruling from the IRS that we qualify as a REIT or concerning the treatment of the securities offered by this prospectus, and the statements in this prospectus are not binding on the IRS or any court. Thus, we can provide no assurance that the tax considerations contained in this summary will not be challenged by the IRS or will be sustained by a court if so challenged.

This summary assumes that the securities offered by this prospectus are held as "capital assets" (generally, property held for investment). Your tax treatment will vary depending on the terms of the specific securities that you acquire, as well as your particular situation. Supplemental U.S. federal income tax considerations relevant to your ownership of the particular securities offered by this prospectus may be provided in the prospectus supplement that relates to those securities. This discussion does not purport to deal with all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to holders of our securities in light of their personal investment or tax circumstances, or to holders who receive special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws except to the extent discussed specifically herein. Holders of securities offered by this prospectus receiving special treatment include, without limitation:

banks, insurance companies or other financial institutions;

brokers or dealers in securities or commodities;

traders in securities;

expatriates and certain former citizens or long-term residents of the U.S.;

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tax-exempt organizations;

persons who are subject to the alternative minimum tax;

persons who hold the securities offered by this prospectus as a position in a "straddle" or as part of a "hedging," "conversion" or other risk reduction transaction;

Table of Contents

persons deemed to sell the securities offered by this prospectus under the constructive sale provisions of the Internal Revenue Code;

U.S. persons that have a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar;

except to the extent specifically discussed below, non-U.S. holders (as defined below); or

persons that are S corporations, real estate investment trusts, regulated investment companies, partnerships or other pass-through entities.

In addition, this discussion does not address any state, local or foreign tax consequences associated with the ownership of the securities offered by this prospectus or our election to be taxed as a REIT.

You are urged to consult your tax advisor regarding the specific tax consequences to you of:

the acquisition, ownership and sale or other disposition of the securities offered by this prospectus, including the U.S. federal, state, local, foreign and other tax consequences;

our election to be taxed as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes; and

potential changes in applicable tax laws.

Taxation of the Company

General

We elected to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856 through 860 of the Internal Revenue Code, commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 1985. We believe we have been organized and have operated in a manner which allows us to qualify for taxation as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 1985. We currently intend to continue to be organized and operate in this manner. However, qualification and taxation as a REIT depend upon our ability to meet the various qualification tests imposed under the Internal Revenue Code, including through actual annual operating results, asset composition, distribution levels and diversity of stock ownership. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that we have been organized and have operated, or will continue to be organized and operate, in a manner so as to qualify or remain qualified as a REIT. See " Failure to Qualify."

The sections of the Internal Revenue Code and the corresponding Treasury Regulations that relate to the qualification and taxation as a REIT are highly technical and complex. The following sets forth certain aspects of the sections of the Internal Revenue Code that govern the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a REIT and its stockholders. This summary is qualified in its entirety by the applicable Internal Revenue Code provisions, Treasury Regulations, and related administrative and judicial interpretations thereof. Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP has acted as our tax counsel in connection with this prospectus and our election to be taxed as a REIT.

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP has rendered an opinion to us to the effect that, commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 1985, we have been organized and have operated in conformity with the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT, and that our proposed method of operation will enable us to continue to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code. It must be emphasized that this opinion was based on various assumptions and representations as to factual matters, including representations made by us in factual certificates provided by one or more of our officers. In addition, this opinion was based upon our factual representations set forth in this prospectus. Moreover, our qualification and taxation as a REIT depend upon our ability to meet the various qualification tests imposed under the Internal Revenue Code which are discussed below, including through actual annual operating results, asset composition, distribution levels and diversity of stock ownership, all of the results of which have not been and will not be reviewed by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Accordingly, no

Table of Contents

assurance can be given that our actual results of operation for any particular taxable year have satisfied or will satisfy those requirements. See " Failure to Qualify." Further, the anticipated income tax treatment described in this prospectus may be changed, perhaps retroactively, by legislative, administrative or judicial action at any time. Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP has no obligation to update its opinion subsequent to its date.

Provided we qualify for taxation as a REIT, we generally will not be required to pay U.S. federal corporate income taxes on our REIT taxable income that is currently distributed to our stockholders. This treatment substantially eliminates the "double taxation" that ordinarily results from investment in a C corporation. A C corporation is a corporation that is generally required to pay tax at the corporate-level. We will be required to pay U.S. federal income tax, however, as follows:

We will be required to pay tax at regular corporate tax rates on any undistributed REIT taxable income, including undistributed net capital gains.

We may be required to pay the "alternative minimum tax" on our items of tax preference under some circumstances.

If we have: (a) net income from the sale or other disposition of "foreclosure property" which is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business; or (b) other nonqualifying income from foreclosure property, we will be required to pay tax at the highest corporate rate on this income. Foreclosure property generally is defined as property we acquired through foreclosure or after a default on a loan secured by the property or a lease of the property and for which an election is in effect.

We will be required to pay a 100% tax on any net income from prohibited transactions. Prohibited transactions are, in general, sales or other taxable dispositions of property, other than foreclosure property, held as inventory or primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business.

If we fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test, as described below, but have otherwise maintained our qualification as a REIT because certain other requirements are met, we will be required to pay a tax equal to (a) the greater of (i) the amount by which 75% of our gross income exceeds the amount qualifying under the 75% gross income test and (ii) the amount by which 95% of our gross income exceeds the amount qualifying under the 95% gross income test, multiplied by (b) a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.

If we fail to satisfy any of the REIT asset tests (other than a de minimis failure of the 5% or 10% asset tests), as described below, due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, and we nonetheless maintain our REIT qualification because of specified cure provisions, we will be required to pay a tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 or the highest corporate tax rate multiplied by the net income generated by the nonqualifying assets that caused us to fail such test.

If we fail to satisfy any provision of the Internal Revenue Code that would result in our failure to qualify as a REIT (other than a violation of the REIT gross income tests or certain violations of the asset tests described below) and the violation is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, we may retain our REIT qualification but will be required to pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure.

We will be required to pay a 4% excise tax to the extent we fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (a) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for the year, (b) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for the year, and (c) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods.

If we acquire any asset from a corporation which is or has been a C corporation in a transaction in which the basis of the asset in our hands is determined by reference to the basis of the asset

Table of Contents

in the hands of the C corporation, and we subsequently recognize gain on the disposition of the asset during the ten-year period beginning on the date on which we acquired the asset, then we will be required to pay tax at the highest regular corporate tax rate on this gain to the extent of the excess of (a) the fair market value of the asset over (b) our adjusted basis in the asset, in each case determined as of the date on which we acquired the asset. The results described in this paragraph with respect to the recognition of gain assume that certain elections specified in applicable Treasury Regulations are either made or forgone by us or by the entity from which the assets are acquired, in each case, depending upon the date such acquisition occurred.

We will be required to pay a 100% tax on any "redetermined rents," "redetermined deductions" or "excess interest." In general, redetermined rents are rents from real property that are overstated as a result of services furnished to any of our tenants by a "taxable REIT subsidiary" of ours. Redetermined deductions and excess interest generally represent amounts that are deducted by a taxable REIT subsidiary of ours for amounts paid to us that are in excess of the amounts that would have been deducted based on arm's-length negotiations.

Certain of our subsidiaries are C corporations, including any taxable REIT subsidiary, the earnings of which will be subject to U.S. federal corporate income tax.

Requirements for Qualification as a REIT

The Internal Revenue Code defines a REIT as a corporation, trust or association:

that is managed by one or more trustees or directors;

that issues transferable shares or transferable certificates to evidence its beneficial ownership;

that would be taxable as a domestic corporation but for special Internal Revenue Code provisions applicable to REITs;

that is not a financial institution or an insurance company within the meaning of certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code;

that is beneficially owned by 100 or more persons;

not more than 50% in value of the outstanding stock of which is owned, actually or constructively, by five or fewer individuals, including certain specified entities, during the last half of each taxable year; and