

# NEWS

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## NHC HealthCare, North Augusta to Add 60 Beds

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -- National HealthCare Corporation (AMEX: NHC), one of the nation's oldest long-term health care companies, announced today that it's affiliate had begun construction on a 60 bed addition to it's North Augusta, South Carolina long-term care facility. When completed, the center will total 192 beds and will be the largest provider of skilled nursing and rehabilitation services in the Central Savannah River Area.

"The \$4.6 million project will not only increase the bed size of the facility, but will allow for the expansion of kitchen facilities, therapy renovations and other improvements. The completion date for the addition is scheduled for the second quarter of 2008," said Steve Flatt, NHC's Senior Vice President for Development. NHC HealthCare, North Augusta was originally constructed and opened in 1990.

NHC affiliates operate 11 long-term health care centers and one assisted living facility in South Carolina. An NHC affiliate has also recently received a certificate of need to develop a 120 bed long-term health care center in Beaufort County.

NHC affiliates operate 73 long-term health care centers with 9,129 beds. NHC affiliates also operate 31 homecare programs, six independent living centers and assisted living centers at 22 locations. NHC's other services include managed care specialty medical units, Alzheimer's units, hospice and a rehabilitation services company. Other information about the company can be found on our web site at [www.NHCcare.com](http://www.NHCcare.com).

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

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