

## AMENDED AND RESTATED DISTRIBUTION REINVESTMENT PLAN

## 30,000,000 Shares

NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc. is a Maryland corporation formed in October 2010 to acquire, originate and asset manage a diversified portfolio of equity and debt investments in healthcare real estate, with a focus on the mid-acuity senior housing sector. We have elected to qualify as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, for federal income tax purposes beginning with the taxable year ended December 31, 2013.

We have established an amended and restated distribution reinvestment plan, or the DRP, designed to provide existing holders of shares of our common stock with an economical and convenient method to designate the cash distributions on all of their shares for reinvestment in more shares through the DRP. Some of the significant features of the DRP are as follows:

- Our current stockholders may purchase additional shares, if desired, by automatically reinvesting all of their cash distributions in shares of common stock under the DRP.
- Shares of our common stock issued pursuant to the DRP are being offered at \$9.69 per share, which is 95% of the offering price of the primary shares in our most recent public offering, as determined by our board of directors on January 29, 2015. By April 11, 2016, our valuation date, we expect to establish an estimated value per share of our common stock based on an independent appraisal of our assets and liabilities in compliance with the rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., or FINRA, that we will disclose in a report that we publicly file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. At that time, shares issued pursuant to the DRP will be priced at 95% of such estimated per share value.
- Stockholders may participate in the DRP by completing and executing an enrollment form. An enrollment form is attached as <u>Appendix B</u> to this prospectus and may be obtained at any time by calling NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc. at (212) 547-2600 or by writing to us at 399 Park Avenue, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10022. If you are already enrolled in the DRP, no action is required.
- You may discontinue reinvestment of distributions under the DRP with respect to some or all of your shares at any time
  without penalty by delivering written notice to us. A withdrawal from participation in the DRP will be effective with
  respect to distributions for a monthly distribution period only if written notice of termination is received at least five days
  prior to the next investment date.
- We may offer up to 30,000,000 shares of common stock pursuant to the DRP in this offering; provided, however, that we may amend or terminate the DRP for any reason, except that we may not amend the DRP to eliminate a participant's ability to withdraw from the DRP, upon ten days prior written notice to participants.
- Dividends are still taxable to you even though they will be reinvested in shares of our common stock pursuant to the DRP.
- · There is no public trading market for our shares, and there can be no assurance that a market will develop in the future.

Investing in shares of our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should purchase shares only if you can afford a complete loss of your investment. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the specific risks set forth under the caption "Risk Factors" under Item 1A of Part I of our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and under Item 1A of Part II of our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, as the same may be updated from time to time by future filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, together with additional information described under the heading "Incorporation by Reference" and "Where You Can Find Additional Information," carefully before you invest in shares of our common stock.

Neither the Securities Exchange Commission, the Attorney General of the State of New York nor any other state securities regulator has approved or disapproved of our common stock, determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete or passed on or endorsed the merits of this offering. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Number of Shares Being Offered	Offering Price Per Share	Maximum Proceeds (Before Expenses)
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share	30,000,000	\$9.69	\$290,700,000

#### SUITABILITY STANDARDS

The shares of common stock we are offering are suitable only as a long-term investment for persons of adequate financial means and who have no need for liquidity in this investment. Because there is no public market for our shares, you will have difficulty selling any shares that you purchase. You should not buy shares of our common stock if you need to sell them immediately or if you will need to sell them quickly in the future.

In consideration of these factors, we have established suitability standards for investors in our offering and subsequent purchasers of our shares. These suitability standards require that a purchaser of shares have either:

- a net worth of at least \$250,000; or
- gross annual income of at least \$70,000 and a net worth of at least \$70,000.

The following states have established suitability standards different from those we have established. Shares will be sold only to investors in these states who meet the special suitability standards set forth below.

*Alabama*—In addition to meeting our suitability standards listed above, Alabama investors must have a liquid net worth of at least ten times their investment in us and our affiliates.

*California*—A California investor must have a net worth of at least \$350,000 or, in the alternative, an annual gross income of at least \$70,000 and a net worth of \$150,000, and the total investment in our offering may not exceed 10% of the investor's net worth.

*Iowa*—An Iowa investor must have a net worth of at least \$350,000 or, in the alternative, an annual gross income of at least \$70,000 and a net worth of at least \$100,000, and the aggregate investment in our offering may not exceed 10% of the investor's liquid net worth.

Kansas—It is recommended by the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner that Kansas investors not invest, in the aggregate, more than 10% of their liquid net worth in this and similar direct participation investments. Liquid net worth is defined as that portion of net worth which consists of cash, cash equivalents and readily marketable securities.

Kentucky—A Kentucky investor's aggregate investment in our offering may not exceed 10% of the investor's net worth.

*Maine*—The Maine Office of Securities recommends that a Maine investor's aggregate investment in our offering and similar direct participation investments not exceed 10% of the investor's liquid net worth.

*Massachusetts*—A Massachusetts' investor may not invest more than 10% of the investor's liquid net worth in us and other non-traded REITs or other non-traded direct participation programs.

*Nebraska*—Nebraska investors must limit their investment in this offering and in the securities of other direct participation programs to 10% of such investor's net worth.

New Jersey—New Jersey investors must have either (a) a minimum liquid net worth of \$100,000 and a minimum annual gross income of \$85,000 or (b) a minimum liquid net worth of \$350,000. In addition, a New Jersey investor's investment in us, our affiliates and other non-publicly traded direct investment programs (including real estate investment trusts, business development companies, oil and gas programs, equipment leasing programs and commodity pools, but excluding unregistered, federally and state exempt private offerings) may not exceed 10% of his or her liquid net worth.

*New Mexico*—A New Mexico investor's aggregate investment in our offering, the offerings of our affiliates and the offerings of other non-traded REITs may not exceed 10% of the investor's liquid net worth.

*North Dakota*—North Dakota investors must represent that, in addition to meeting our suitability standards listed above, they have a net worth of at least ten times their investment in our offering.

*Ohio*—An Ohio investor's aggregate investment in us, our affiliates and other non-traded REITs may not exceed 10% of the investor's liquid net worth.

*Oregon*—An Oregon investor's aggregate investment in us may not exceed 10% of the investor's net worth.

Pennsylvania—A Pennsylvania investor's aggregate investment in our offering may not exceed 10% of the investor's net worth.

*Tennessee*—A Tennessee investor's aggregate investment in our offering must not exceed 10% of the investor's liquid net worth.

For purposes of determining the suitability of an investor, net worth (total assets minus total liabilities) in all cases should be calculated excluding the value of an investor's home, home furnishings and automobiles. "Liquid net worth" is defined as that portion of net worth that consists of cash, cash equivalents and readily marketable securities. In the case of sales to fiduciary accounts (such as individual retirement accounts, or IRAs, Keogh Plans or pension or profit-sharing plans), these suitability standards must be met by the fiduciary account, by the person who directly or indirectly supplied the funds for the purchase of the shares if such person is the fiduciary or by the beneficiary of the account.

NorthStar Asset Management Group Inc. (NYSE: NSAM), our sponsor, those selling shares on our behalf and participating broker-dealers and registered investment advisers recommending the purchase of shares in our offering must make every reasonable effort to determine that the purchase of shares in our offering is a suitable and appropriate investment for each stockholder based on information provided by the stockholder regarding the stockholder's financial situation and investment objectives.

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#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This prospectus summary highlights material information regarding our business and this offering that is not otherwise addressed in the "Summary of Our Distribution Reinvestment Plan" section of this prospectus. Because it is a summary, it may not contain all of the information that is important to you. To understand this offering fully, you should read the entire prospectus carefully before making a decision to participate in the distribution reinvestment plan. You should also review the section of this prospectus titled "Incorporation by Reference."

#### NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc.

NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc. was formed to acquire, originate, and asset manage a diversified portfolio of equity and debt investments in healthcare real estate, directly or through joint ventures, with a focus on the mid-acuity senior housing sector, which we define as assisted living, memory care, skilled nursing and independent living facilities and continuing care retirement communities. We have also invested in other healthcare property types, including medical office buildings, hospitals and rehabilitation facilities. Our investments are predominantly in the United States, but we may also make international investments.

We were formed on October 5, 2010 as a Maryland corporation and commenced operations in February 2013. We elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Internal Revenue Code, commencing with the taxable year ended December 31, 2013. We conduct our operations so as to continue to qualify as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Our equity investments are generally healthcare properties, which are either structured as net leases to healthcare operators or operated through management agreements with independent third-party operators, predominantly through the REIT Investment Diversification and Empowerment Act of 2007, or RIDEA, structures that permit us, through taxable REIT subsidiaries, or TRS, to have direct exposure to resident fee income and incur related operating expenses. Our debt investments generally consist of first mortgage loans and mezzanine loans.

As of the date of this prospectus, we own a healthcare real estate portfolio consisting of 39 investments, including 35 equity investments with an aggregate total cost of \$2.6 billion and four debt investments with an aggregate principal amount of \$193 million.

Our office is located at 399 Park Avenue, 18th Floor, New York, New York 10022. Our telephone number is (212) 547-2600. Information regarding our company is also available on our website at *www.northstarreit.com/healthcare*. The information contained on our website is not incorporated into this prospectus.

## **Status of Our Public Offerings**

We commenced our initial public offering of up to \$1.1 billion in shares of common stock on August 7, 2012. As of February 2, 2015, we had received and accepted subscriptions in our initial public offering for 110.5 million shares, or approximately \$1.1 billion, including 0.3 million shares, or \$2.7 million, sold to NorthStar Realty Finance Corp., or Northstar Realty, and our initial public offering terminated.

Following the completion of our initial public offering, we commenced our follow-on public offering of \$700.0 million in shares of common stock on February 6, 2015, which included up to \$200.0 million in shares offered pursuant to the DRP. In November 2015, our board of directors authorized the reallocation of shares available to be offered pursuant to our DRP to our primary offering. As of December 4, 2015, we received and accepted subscriptions in our offering for 58.0 million shares, or \$588.1 million, including 0.3 million shares, or \$2.6 million, sold to NorthStar Realty. As of December 4, 2015, \$111.9 million remains available for sale pursuant to our offering, including the amount offered pursuant to the DRP. Our primary offering is expected to terminate on the date on which the maximum offering, including shares reallocated from the DRP, has been issued, which may occur as early as December 21, 2015. However, our board of directors may determine to terminate our primary offering at any time.

# **Terms of this Offering**

We are offering a maximum of 30,000,000 shares of our common stock to our existing stockholders pursuant to the DRP. Shares of our common stock issued pursuant to the DRP are initially being offered at \$9.69 per share, which is 95% of the offering price of the primary shares in our most recent public offering, as determined by our board of directors on January 29, 2015. By our valuation date, we expect to establish an estimated value per share of our common stock in accordance with FINRA rules that we will disclose in a report that we will publicly file with the SEC. At that time, shares issued pursuant to the DRP will be priced at 95% of such estimated per share value.

This offering must be registered or exempt from registration in every state in which we offer or sell shares. If this offering is not exempt from registration, the required registration generally is for a period of one year. Therefore, we may have to stop selling shares in any state in which the registration is not renewed annually and the offering is not otherwise exempt from registration.

#### **Distribution Reinvestment Plan**

This prospectus describes the DRP, which is designed to offer our existing stockholders a simple and convenient way to invest their cash distributions in additional shares of our common stock without paying any selling commissions, fees or service charges. Regardless of your participation in the DRP, you will be taxed on your distributions to the extent they constitute taxable income, and participation in the DRP would mean that you will have to rely solely on sources other than distributions from which to pay such taxes. As a result, you may have a tax liability without receiving cash distributions to pay such liability. We may amend or terminate the DRP for any reason, except that we may not amend the DRP to eliminate a participant's ability to withdraw from the DRP, upon ten days prior written notice to participants.

#### **Use of Proceeds**

We expect to use substantially all of the net proceeds from the sale of shares under the DRP to repurchase shares under our share repurchase program, make additional investments and for general corporate purposes. We cannot predict with any certainty how much of such proceeds will be used for any of the above purposes, and we have no basis for estimating the number of shares that will be sold pursuant to our distribution reinvestment plan. We will pay actual expenses incurred in connection with the registration and offering of the DRP shares, including but not limited to legal fees, printing expenses, mailing costs, SEC and blue sky registration fees, and other accountable offering expenses, in our sole discretion. These offering expenses are currently estimated to be approximately \$125,000.

# YOU SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT YOU MAY NOT PROFIT, AND MAY INCUR A LOSS, ON THE SHARES YOU ACQUIRE UNDER THE DRP.

## ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus, any supplement to this prospectus or any other offering materials we may use. We have not authorized any person to provide information other than that provided in this prospectus, any supplement to this prospectus or any other offering materials we may use. You should assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials we may use is accurate only as of the date on its cover page and that any information in a document we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference. The statements that we make in this prospectus or in any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus about the contents of any other documents are not necessarily complete, and are qualified in their entirety by referring you to copies of those documents that are filed as exhibits to the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part, or as an exhibit to the documents incorporated by reference. You can obtain copies of these documents from the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, or from us, as

described below. This prospectus may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. An investment in our securities involves certain risks that should be carefully considered by prospective investors. See "Risk Factors" below.

# RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the specific risks set forth under the caption "Risk Factors" under Item 1A of Part I of our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and under Item 1A of Part II of our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, each of which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus, before making an investment decision, as the same may be updated from time to time by our future filings under the Exchange Act, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

#### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus contains certain "forward-looking statements." Forward-looking statements are generally identifiable by use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "potential," "intend," "expect," "seek," "anticipate," "estimate," "believe," "could," "project," "predict," "continue" or other similar words or expressions. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of performance and are based on certain assumptions, discuss future expectations, describe plans and strategies or state other forward-looking information. Such statements include, but are not limited to, those relating to our ability to successfully complete our offering, our ability to deploy effectively and timely the net proceeds of our offering, use of proceeds from our offering, our reliance on NSAM J-NSHC Ltd, our advisor, and our sponsor, our understanding of our competition and our ability to compete effectively, market and industry trends, estimates relating to our future distributions, our financing needs, our expected leverage and the effects of our current strategies. Our ability to predict results or the actual effect of plans or strategies is inherently uncertain, particularly given the economic environment. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, our actual results and performance could differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results in future periods to differ materially from those forward looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- adverse economic conditions and the impact on the real estate industry, including healthcare real estate;
- our ability to successfully raise capital in our offering;
- our ability to deploy capital quickly and successfully and achieve a diversified portfolio consistent with our target asset classes;
- our dependence on the resources and personnel of our advisor, our sponsor and their affiliates, including our advisor's ability to source and close on attractive investment opportunities on our behalf;
- the performance of our advisor, our sponsor and their affiliates;
- our liquidity and access to capital;
- our use of leverage;
- our ability to make distributions to you;
- the lack of a public trading market for our shares;
- the effect of economic conditions on the valuations of our investments;
- the effect of paying distributions to our stockholders from sources other than cash flow provided by operations;
- the impact of NorthStar Realty's spin-off of its asset management business, which included our advisor;
- our advisor's and its affiliates' ability to attract and retain sufficient personnel to support our growth and operations;
- the impact of market and other conditions influencing the availability of equity versus debt investments and performance of our investments relative to our expectations and the impact on our actual return on invested equity, as well as the cash provided by these investments;
- changes in our business or investment strategy;

- the impact of economic conditions on the operators/tenants of the real property that we own as well as on borrowers of the debt we originate and acquire and the mortgage loans underlying the healthcare-related commercial mortgage backed securities in which we invest;
- the ability and willingness of our tenants, operators, managers and other third parties to satisfy their
  respective obligations to us, including in some cases their obligation to indemnify us from and against
  various claims and liabilities;
- changes in the value of our portfolio;
- our ability to realize current and expected returns over the life of our investments;
- any failure in our advisor's and its affiliates' due diligence to identify relevant facts during our underwriting process or otherwise;
- illiquidity of properties or debt investments in our portfolio;
- our ability to finance our assets on terms that are acceptable to us, if at all, including our ability to complete securitization financing transactions;
- environmental compliance costs and liabilities;
- whether we will realize the benefits of the long-term partnership between our sponsor and James F.
   Flaherty III, our Vice Chairman and potential conflicts that may arise in connection with his interest in American Healthcare Investors, LLC;
- risks associated with our joint ventures and unconsolidated entities, including our lack of sole decision making authority and the financial condition of our joint venture partners;
- increased rates of loss or default and decreased recovery on our investments;
- the degree and nature of our competition;
- the effectiveness of our risk and portfolio management systems;
- failure to maintain effective internal controls and disclosure controls and procedures;
- regulatory requirements with respect to our business and the healthcare industry generally, as well as the related cost of compliance;
- the extent and timing of future healthcare reform and regulation, including changes in reimbursement policies, procedures and rates;
- legislative and regulatory changes, including changes to laws governing the taxation of REITs and changes to laws affecting non-traded REITs and alternative investments generally;
- our ability to qualify and maintain our qualification as a REIT for federal income tax purposes and limitations imposed on our business by our status as a REIT;
- the loss of our exemption from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended;
- availability of opportunities to acquire equity, debt and securities investments in the healthcare real estate sector;

- general volatility in capital markets;
- the adequacy of our cash reserves and working capital; and
- other risks associated with investing in our targeted investments, including changes in our industry, interest rates, the securities markets, the general economy or the capital markets and real estate markets specifically.

The foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive. All forward-looking statements included in this prospectus are based upon information available to us on the date hereof and we are under no duty to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this prospectus to conform these statements to actual results.

As discussed under "Risk Factors" on page 7 of this prospectus, factors that could have a material adverse effect on our operations and future prospects are set forth in our filings with the SEC, including Part I of our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and under Item 1A of Part II of our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q under the heading "Risk Factors." The risk factors set forth in our filings with the SEC could cause our actual results to differ significantly from those contained in any forward-looking statement contained in this prospectus.

#### SUMMARY OF OUR DISTRIBUTION REINVESTMENT PLAN

## What is the purpose of the DRP?

The DRP is designed to offer our existing stockholders a simple and convenient way to invest their cash distributions in additional shares of our common stock without paying any selling commissions, fees or service charges. We expect to use substantially all of the net proceeds from the sale of shares under the DRP to repurchase shares under our share repurchase program, make additional investments and for general corporate purposes.

### How are my distributions reinvested?

If you choose to participate in the DRP, we will apply distributions on the shares of stock registered in your name to purchase additional shares for you directly from us. Participants may participate in the DRP with respect to all or a portion of the shares of stock owned by them. The allocation of shares of our common stock among participants may result in the ownership of fractional shares, computed to three decimal places.

The distributions paid on shares acquired through the DRP will continue to be reinvested on the same basis as the shares otherwise acquired, unless you elect to have them paid in cash by changing your investment option.

## What is the purchase price of shares in the DRP?

There is no public trading market for the shares of our common stock, and there can be no assurance that a market will develop in the future. Shares of our common stock issued pursuant to the DRP are being offered at \$9.69 per share, which is 95% of the offering price of the primary shares in our most recent public offering, as determined by our board of directors on January 29, 2015. By the valuation date, we expect to establish an estimated value per share of our common stock that we will disclose in a report that we publicly file with the SEC. At that time, shares issued pursuant to the DRP will be priced at 95% of such estimated per share value.

The selling price of shares of common stock issued pursuant to the DRP may not be indicative of the price at which such shares may trade if they were listed on an exchange or of the proceeds that a stockholder may receive if we liquidated or dissolved.

## Who is eligible to participate in the DRP?

You are eligible to participate in the DRP if you are a holder of record of shares of our common stock and the shares are registered in your name. In addition, we have established suitability standards for all stockholders, including subsequent transferees, which must be satisfied in order to participate in the DRP. See "Suitability Standards." If at any time prior to the listing of the shares on a national stock exchange there is a material change in your financial condition, including the failure to meet the minimum income and net worth standards imposed by your state of residence for making an investment in us, or if you cannot make the other representations or warranties set forth in the prospectus, we request that you notify us in writing.

If your shares are held of record by a broker or nominee, to enroll in the DRP, you will need to arrange for that entity to transfer ownership of the shares to you. We may refuse participation in the DRP to stockholders residing in states where shares offered pursuant to the DRP are neither registered under applicable securities laws nor exempt from registration.

# How do I enroll in the DRP?

If you are already enrolled in the DRP, no action is required. If you are not already a participant in the DRP and are eligible to participate, you may become a participant in the DRP at any time by completing and signing an enrollment form. An enrollment form is attached as <u>Appendix B</u> to this prospectus and may be obtained at any time by calling NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc. at (212) 547-2600 or by writing to us at 399 Park Avenue, 18th Floor, New York, New York 10022.

If you are not already a participant in the DRP, your participation in the DRP will begin with the first distribution payment after receipt and acceptance of your signed enrollment form. If your enrollment form is not received and accepted by us prior to the payment date, the distribution will be paid to you in cash and reinvestment of your distributions will not begin until the next distribution payment date after acceptance.

You will remain a participant of the DRP until you deliver to us written notice of your desire to terminate your participation (described more fully below under "How do I terminate participation in the DRP?").

# Who administers the DRP for participants?

Our DRP will be administered directly by us or an affiliate of the company as our DRP Administrator, but a different entity may act as DRP Administrator in the future. Our DRP Administrator will keep all records of your DRP accounts and send statements of your account to you.

## When will shares be purchased under the DRP?

Shares will be purchased for you under the DRP on the date on which common stock distributions are paid. We currently declare distributions to our stockholders as of daily record dates and aggregate and pay such distributions monthly, ordinarily on or about the first business day of each month. We cannot assure you that we will continue to pay distributions according to this schedule, and nothing contained in the DRP obligates us to do so. The DRP does not represent a guarantee of future distributions. Neither we nor the DRP Administrator will be liable when conditions, including compliance with the provisions of our charter and rules and regulations of the SEC, prevent the DRP Administrator from buying shares of common stock or interfere with the timing of such purchases.

A participant will not be able to acquire DRP shares to the extent that any such purchase would cause such participant to exceed the ownership limits set forth in our charter or violate the other share ownership restrictions set forth in the charter

If the aggregate amount of distributions to participants exceeds the amount required to purchase all shares of our common stock then available for purchase, we will purchase all available shares of our common stock and will return all remaining distributions to the participants. We will allocate the purchased shares of our common stock among the participants based on the portion of the aggregate distributions received on behalf of each participant, as reflected in our records.

## Who will assume the costs of administering the DRP?

Purchases under the DRP will not be subject to selling commissions, dealer manager fees or due diligence reimbursements. All costs of administration of the DRP will be borne by us.

# When will I receive reports about my investments under the DRP?

You will receive a statement of your account within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year. The statements will contain a report of all transactions with respect to your account since the last statement, including information with respect to the distributions reinvested during the year, the number of shares purchased during the year, the per share purchase price for such shares and the total number of shares purchased on your behalf pursuant to the DRP. In addition, tax information with respect to income earned on shares under the DRP for the year will be included in the account statements.

In addition, our annual report contains information regarding our history of distribution payments. This annual report is mailed to our stockholders each year.

## How do I terminate participation in the DRP?

You may terminate your participation in the DRP at any time, without penalty upon written notice to us. To be effective for any distribution period such notice must be received by us at least five days prior to the next investment date. A notice of termination received by the DRP Administrator after such cutoff date will not be effective until the next following investment date. Participants who terminate their participation in the DRP may thereafter rejoin the DRP if they then satisfy the suitability requirements and complete a new enrollment form.

Prior to the listing of our shares of common stock on a national stock exchange, any transfer of shares by a DRP participant to a non-participant will terminate participation in the DRP with respect to the transferred shares. If a participant terminates DRP participation, we will ensure that the terminating participant's account will reflect the whole number of shares in such participant's account and provide a check for the cash value of any fractional share in such account. Upon termination of DRP participation for any reason, distributions will be distributed to the stockholder in cash.

## Can the company terminate my participation in the DRP?

Our board of directors may cause the company to terminate your individual participation in the DRP at any time by notice to you if continued participation would cause the ownership limits contained in our charter to be violated.

If we terminate your participation in the DRP, we will update our stock records to include the number of whole shares in your DRP account and will provide you with a check for the cash value of any fractional share in such account. In addition, following any such termination, all subsequent distributions would be made in cash.

# Can the DRP be amended, suspended or terminated?

Our board of directors may, in its sole discretion, terminate the DRP or amend any aspect of the DRP without the consent of DRP participants or other stockholders, provided that written notice of any amendment is sent to DRP participants at least ten days prior to the effective date of that amendment and provided that we may not amend the DRP to terminate a participant's right to withdraw from the DRP.

If the DRP is terminated, we will update our stock records to include the number of whole shares in your DRP account and send you a check in payment for any fractional shares in your account.

# What are the federal income tax consequences of participation in the DRP?

The following discussion summarizes the principal federal income tax consequences, under current law, of participation in the DRP. It does not address all potentially relevant federal income tax matters, including consequences peculiar to persons subject to special provisions of federal income tax law (such as tax-exempt organizations, insurance companies, financial institutions, broker dealers and non-U.S. persons). No IRS ruling has been issued or requested regarding the DRP. The following discussion is for your general information only, and you must consult your own tax advisor to determine the particular tax consequences (including the effects of any changes in law) that may result from your participation in the DRP and the disposition of any shares purchased pursuant to the DRP.

Reinvested Distributions. Stockholders subject to federal income taxation who elect to participate in the DRP will incur a tax liability for distributions allocated to them even though they have elected not to receive their distributions in cash but rather to have their distributions reinvested pursuant to the DRP. Specifically, DRP participants will be treated as if they received the distribution from us and then applied such distribution to purchase the shares in the DRP. To the extent that a stockholder purchases shares through the DRP at a discount to fair market value, the stockholders will be treated for tax purposes as receiving an additional distribution equal to the amount of such discount. A participant will be taxed on the amount of such distribution as ordinary income to the extent such distribution is from current or accumulated earnings and profits, unless the company has designated all or a portion of the distribution as a capital gain dividend or as a "qualified dividend." In such case, such designated portion of

the distribution will be taxed as a long-term capital gain. To the extent that we make a distribution in excess of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, the distribution will be treated first as a tax-free return of capital, reducing the tax basis in your common stock, and any distribution in excess of such basis will be taxable as a gain realized from the sale of your common stock. Any income with respect to the DRP will be included in a participant's net investment income for purposes of the Medicare tax, discussed under the heading "U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations—Taxation of Holders of Our Common Stock—Taxation of Taxable U.S. Stockholders."

*Withholding*. In the case of participating stockholders whose distributions are subject to withholding of federal income tax, distributions will be reinvested less the amount of tax required to be withheld.

## How will the shares purchased through the DRP be recorded on the company's books?

All shares of our common stock that you purchase through the reinvestment of distributions are recorded in your name on our books. No stock certificates will be issued because we do not issue stock certificates. The number of shares you hold in the DRP will be shown on your statement of account.

## How may I sell shares acquired under the DRP?

You may sell the shares held in the DRP, and your other shares, at any time, subject to any restrictions set forth in our charter or that we may impose on the sale of shares to protect our status as a REIT. However, there currently is no public market for shares of our common stock. We do not expect a public market for our stock to develop prior to a listing on a national stock exchange, which may not occur in the near future or at all. Consequently, there may not be a readily available buyer for your shares. We have adopted a share repurchase plan to provide limited liquidity for our stockholders. However, our board of directors may, in its sole discretion, amend or terminate our share repurchase program at any time, provided that any amendment that adversely affects the rights or obligations of a participant (as determined in the sole discretion of our board of directors) will only take effect upon ten days' prior written notice to stockholders, except that changes in the number of shares that can be repurchased during any calendar year will take effect only upon ten business days' prior written notice. Therefore, you may not have the opportunity to make a repurchase request prior to any potential termination of our share repurchase program.

Your transfer of shares will terminate participation in the DRP with respect to such transferred shares as of the first day of the month in which such transfer is effective, unless the transferee of such shares in connection with such transfer demonstrates to us that such transferee meets the requirements for participation hereunder, including the suitability standards set forth in this prospectus, and affirmatively elects participation by delivering an executed enrollment form or other instrument required by us.

#### What are the voting rights of shares acquired under the DRP?

Shares in your DRP account will be voted as you direct. As a stockholder, you will receive a proxy card in connection with any annual or special meeting of stockholders. This proxy will apply to all shares registered in your name, including all shares credited to your DRP account. You may also vote your shares, including those in your DRP account, in person at any annual or special meeting of stockholders.

## What law governs the DRP?

The laws of the State of Maryland will govern the terms, conditions and operation of the DRP.

# Who can help answer my questions or provide me with documents relating to the DRP?

If you have questions about the DRP or would like to request forms related to the DRP and documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, please contact:

NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc., 399 Park Avenue, 18th Floor New York, New York 10022 (212) 547-2600

#### U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

#### General

The following is a summary of certain material federal income tax consequences relating to our qualification and taxation as a REIT and the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our common stock that you, as a potential stockholder, may consider relevant. Because this section is a general summary, it does not address all of the potential tax issues that may be relevant to you in light of your particular circumstances. This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code; current, temporary and proposed Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder; current administrative interpretations and practices of the IRS; and judicial decisions now in effect, all of which are subject to change (possibly with retroactive effect) or to different interpretations.

We have not requested, and do not plan to request, any rulings from the IRS concerning the tax treatment with respect to matters contained in this discussion, 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 challenged by the IRS.

This summary of certain federal income tax consequences applies to you only if you acquire and hold our common stock as a "capital asset" (generally, property held for investment within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code). This summary does not consider all of the rules which may affect the U.S. tax treatment of your investment in our common stock in light of your particular circumstances. For example, except to the extent discussed under the headings "—Taxation of Holders of Our Common Stock-Taxation of Tax-Exempt Stockholders" and "—Taxation of Holders of Our Common Stock-Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders," special rules not discussed here may apply to you if you are:

- a broker-dealer or a dealer in securities or currencies;
- · an S corporation;
- a partnership or other pass-through entity;
- a bank, thrift or other financial institution;
- a regulated investment company or a REIT;
- an insurance company;
- a tax-exempt organization;
- subject to the alternative minimum tax provisions of the Internal Revenue Code;
- holding our common stock as part of a hedge, straddle, conversion, integrated or other risk reduction or constructive sale transaction:
- holding our common stock through a partnership or other pass-through entity;
- a non-U.S. corporation, non-U.S. trust, non-U.S. estate, or an individual who is not a resident or citizen of the United States;
- a U.S. person whose "functional currency" is not the U.S. dollar; or
- a U.S. expatriate.

If a partnership, including any entity that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, holds our common stock, the federal income tax treatment of the partner in the partnership will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner in a partnership that will hold our common

stock, you should consult your tax advisor regarding the federal income tax consequences of acquiring, holding and disposing of our common stock by the partnership.

The rules dealing with U.S. federal income taxation are constantly under review. No assurance can be given as to whether, when or in what form the U.S. federal income tax laws applicable to us and our stockholders may be changed, possibly with retroactive effect. Changes to the federal tax laws and interpretations of federal tax laws could adversely affect an investment in shares of our common stock.

This summary generally does not discuss any alternative minimum tax considerations or any state, local or non-U.S. tax considerations.

This summary of certain material federal income tax consideration is for general information purposes only and is not tax advice. You are advised to consult your tax adviser regarding the federal, state, local and non-U.S. tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common stock. Taxation of NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc.

We have elected to be taxed as a REIT beginning with the taxable year ended on December 31, 2013. We believe that we have been organized and intend to operate in such a manner as to continue to qualify for taxation as a REIT.

# **REIT Qualification**

This section of the prospectus discusses the laws governing the tax treatment of a REIT and its stockholders. These laws are highly technical and complex.

In connection with our offering, Alston & Bird LLP has delivered an opinion to us that, commencing with our taxable year ending on December 31, 2013, we have been organized and operated in conformity with the requirements for qualification as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code and our proposed method of operation will enable us to continue to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT.

Investors should be aware that the opinion of Alston & Bird LLP is based on various assumptions relating to our organization and operation and on the accuracy of opinions issued by other firms with respect to the nature of certain of our assets and is conditioned upon representations and covenants made by us regarding our organization, assets and conduct of our business operations. While we intend to continue to operate so that we will qualify as a REIT, given the highly complex nature of the rules governing REITs, the ongoing importance of factual determinations and the possibility of future changes in our circumstances, no assurance can be given by Alston & Bird LLP or by us that we will so qualify for any particular year. Alston & Bird LLP will have no obligation to advise us or the holders of our common stock of any subsequent change in the matters stated, represented or assumed in the opinion, or of any subsequent change in the applicable law. You should be aware that opinions of counsel are not binding on the IRS or any court, and no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge the conclusions set forth in such opinions.

Qualification and taxation as a REIT depends on our ability to meet on a continuing basis, through actual operating results, distribution levels and diversity of share ownership, various qualification requirements imposed upon REITs by the Internal Revenue Code, the compliance with which will not be reviewed by Alston & Bird LLP. Our ability to qualify as a REIT also requires that we satisfy certain asset tests, some of which depend upon the fair market values of assets directly or indirectly owned by us. Such values may not be susceptible to a precise determination. While we intend to continue to operate in a manner that will allow us to qualify as a REIT, no assurance can be given that the actual results of our operations for any taxable year satisfy such requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT.

# Taxation of REITs in General

As indicated above, qualification and taxation as a REIT depends upon our ability to meet, on a continuing basis, various qualification requirements imposed upon REITs by the Internal Revenue Code. The material

qualification requirements are summarized below under "—*Requirements?for?Qualification-General.*" While we intend to continue to operate so that we qualify as a REIT, no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge our qualification or that we will be able to operate in accordance with the REIT requirements in the future. See "— *Failure to Qualify*" below.

Provided that we qualify as a REIT, we generally will not be subject to federal income tax on our REIT taxable income that is distributed to our stockholders. This treatment substantially eliminates the "double taxation" at the corporate and stockholder levels that have historically resulted from investment in a corporation. Rather, income generated by a REIT generally is taxed only at the stockholder level upon a distribution of dividends by the REIT.

Net operating losses, foreign tax credits and other tax attributes of a REIT generally do not pass through to the stockholders of the REIT, subject to special rules for certain items such as capital gains recognized by REITs.

As a REIT, we will generally not be subject to income tax; however, we will be subject to federal tax in the following circumstances:

- We will be taxed at regular corporate rates on any taxable income, including undistributed net capital gains, that we do not distribute to stockholders during, or within a specified time period after, the calendar year in which the income is earned;
- We may be subject to the "alternative minimum tax" on our items of tax preference;
- If we have net income from prohibited transactions, which are, in general, sales or other dispositions of property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business, other than foreclosure property, such income will be subject to a 100% tax. See "—Prohibited Transactions" and "—Foreclosure Property" below;
- We will pay income tax at the highest corporate income tax rate (currently 35%) on net income from the sale or other disposition of property acquired through a foreclosure of a mortgage loan or certain leasehold terminations, or "foreclosure property," that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business and other non-qualifying income from foreclosure property;
- If we fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test, as discussed below, but nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT because other requirements are met, we will be subject to a 100% tax on an amount based upon the magnitude of the failure, adjusted to reflect our profitability;
- In the event of a failure of the asset tests (other than certain de minimis failures), as described below under "—Asset Tests," as long as the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, we dispose of the assets or otherwise comply with such asset tests within six months after the last day of the quarter in which we identify such failure and we file a schedule with the IRS describing the assets that caused such failure, we will pay a tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 or 35% of the net income from the non-qualifying assets during the period in which we failed to satisfy such asset tests;
- In the event of a failure to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification, other than the gross income tests and the asset tests, and that violation is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, we will be required to pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure;
- If we fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of: (i) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for such year; (ii) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for such year; and (iii) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we will be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of the required distribution over the sum of (a) the amounts actually distributed, plus (b) retained amounts on which income tax is paid at the corporate level;

- We may be required to pay monetary penalties to the IRS in certain circumstances, including if we fail to
  meet recordkeeping requirements intended to monitor our compliance with rules relating to the composition
  of our stockholders, as described below in "—Requirements for?Qualification—General";
- A 100% tax may be imposed on certain items of income and expense that are directly or constructively paid between a REIT and a TRS if and to the extent that the IRS successfully adjusts the reported amounts of these items to conform to an arm's-length pricing standard;
- If we acquire appreciated assets from a corporation that is not a REIT (i.e., a corporation taxable under subchapter C of the Internal Revenue Code) in a transaction in which the adjusted tax basis of the assets in its hands is determined by reference to the adjusted tax basis of the assets in the hands of the subchapter C corporation, we will be subject to tax at the highest corporate income tax rate then applicable if we subsequently recognize the built-in gain on a disposition of any such assets during the ten-year period following the acquisition from the subchapter C corporation, unless the subchapter C corporation elects to treat the transfer of the assets to the REIT as a deemed sale; and
- The earnings of our lower-tier entities that are subchapter C corporations, if any, including domestic TRSs, are subject to federal corporate income tax.

In addition, we and our subsidiaries may be subject to a variety of taxes, including payroll taxes and state and local income, property and other taxes on assets and operations. We could also be subject to tax in situations and on transactions not presently contemplated.

Requirements for Qualification-General

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

- (1) that is managed by one or more trustees or directors;
- (2) the beneficial ownership of which is evidenced by transferable shares or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest;
- (3) which would be taxable as a domestic corporation but for the special Internal Revenue Code provisions applicable to REITs;
- (4) that is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company subject to specific provisions of the Internal Revenue Code:
- (5) the beneficial ownership of which is held by 100 or more persons;
- (6) in which, during the last half of each taxable year, not more than 50% in value of the outstanding stock is owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer "individuals" (as defined in the Internal Revenue Code to include specified entities);
- (7) that properly elects to be taxed as a REIT and such election has not been terminated or revoked; and
- (8) which meets other tests described below regarding the nature of its income and assets, its distributions, and certain other matters.

The Internal Revenue Code provides that conditions (1) through (4) must be met during the entire taxable year, and that condition (5) must be met during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months, or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year. Our charter provides restrictions regarding the ownership and transfer of our shares, which are intended to assist us in satisfying the share ownership requirements described in conditions (5) and (6) above. For purposes of condition (6), an "individual" generally includes a supplemental unemployment compensation benefit plan, a private foundation or a portion of a trust permanently set aside or used exclusively for

charitable purposes, but does not include a qualified pension plan or profit sharing trust. We are not required to satisfy conditions (5) and (6) for the first taxable year in which we elect to be taxed as a REIT.

To monitor compliance with the share ownership requirements, we generally are required to maintain records regarding the actual ownership of our shares. To do so, we must demand written statements each year from the record holders of significant percentages of our stock in which the record holders are to disclose the actual owners of the shares (i.e., the persons required to include in gross income the dividends paid by us). A list of those persons failing or refusing to comply with this demand must be maintained as part of our records. Failure to comply with these recordkeeping requirements could subject us to monetary penalties. If we satisfy these requirements and have no reason to know that condition (6) is not satisfied, we will be deemed to have satisfied such condition. A stockholder that fails or refuses to comply with the demand is required by Treasury Regulations to submit a statement with its tax return disclosing the actual ownership of the shares and other information.

In addition, a corporation generally may not elect to become a REIT unless its taxable year is the calendar year. We satisfy this requirement.

Finally, at the end of any year, a REIT cannot have accumulated earnings and profits from a non-REIT corporation's taxable year. We do not have any prior corporate earnings and profits and have not succeeded to any non-REIT earnings and profits as a result of any merger or acquisition of an entity taxable as a C corporation.

## Effect of Subsidiary Entities

Ownership of Partnership Interests. In the case of a REIT that is a partner in a partnership, the REIT is deemed to own its proportionate share of the partnership's assets and to earn its proportionate share of the partnership's income for purposes of the asset and gross income tests applicable to REITs. In addition, the assets and gross income of the partnership are deemed to retain the same character in the hands of the REIT. Thus, our proportionate share of the assets and items of income of partnerships in which we own an equity interest (including our interest in our operating partnership) are treated as our assets and items of income for purposes of applying the REIT requirements. Our proportionate share is generally determined, for these purposes, based upon our percentage interest in the partnership's equity capital; however, for purposes of the 10% value-based asset test described below, the percentage interest also takes into account certain debt securities issued by the partnership and held by us. Consequently, to the extent that we directly or indirectly hold a preferred or other equity interest in a partnership, the partnership's assets and operations may affect our ability to qualify as a REIT, even if we have no control, or only limited influence, over the partnership. A summary of certain rules governing the federal income taxation of partnerships and their partners is provided below in "—Tax Aspects of Investments in Partnerships."

Disregarded Subsidiaries. If a REIT owns a corporate subsidiary that is a "qualified REIT subsidiary," that subsidiary is disregarded for federal income tax purposes, and all assets, liabilities and items of income, deduction and credit of the subsidiary are treated as assets, liabilities and items of income, deduction and credit of the REIT itself, including for purposes of the gross income and asset tests applicable to REITs. A qualified REIT subsidiary is any corporation, other than a "TRS" as described below, that is wholly owned by a REIT, or by other disregarded subsidiaries owned by the REIT, or by a combination of the two. Other entities that are wholly owned by us, including single member limited liability companies, are also generally disregarded as separate entities for federal income tax purposes, including for purposes of the REIT gross income and asset tests. Disregarded subsidiaries, along with partnerships in which we hold an equity interest, are sometimes referred to as "pass-through subsidiaries."

In the event that one of our disregarded subsidiaries ceases to be wholly owned - for example, if any equity interest in the subsidiary is acquired by a person other than us or another of our disregarded subsidiaries - the subsidiary's separate existence would no longer be disregarded for federal income tax purposes. Instead, it would have multiple owners and would be treated as either a partnership or a taxable corporation. Such an event could, depending on the circumstances, adversely affect our ability to satisfy the various asset and gross income requirements applicable to REITs, including the requirement that REITs generally may not own, directly or indirectly, more than 10% of the securities of another corporation. See "—Asset Tests" and "—Gross Income Tests."

Taxable Subsidiaries. A REIT may jointly elect with a subsidiary corporation, whether or not wholly owned, to treat the subsidiary corporation as a TRS. A corporation in which a TRS directly or indirectly owns more than 35% of its stock, by voting power or value, will automatically be treated as a TRS. A corporation that operates or manages, directly or indirectly, a lodging facility or a health care facility or directly or indirectly provides to another person rights to any brand name under which any lodging facility or health care facility is operated cannot be a TRS. The separate existence of a TRS or other taxable corporation, unlike a disregarded subsidiary as discussed above, is not ignored for federal income tax purposes. A TRS is subject to corporate income tax on its earnings, which may reduce the cash flow generated by us and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders.

A REIT is not treated as holding the assets of a taxable subsidiary corporation or as receiving any income that the taxable subsidiary earns. Rather, the stock of the taxable subsidiary owned by the REIT is an asset in the hands of the parent REIT, and the REIT recognizes as income the dividends, if any, that it receives from the taxable subsidiary. The use of TRSs may allow the parent REIT to indirectly undertake certain activities that the REIT rules might otherwise preclude it from doing directly (or through pass-through subsidiaries), such as performing tenant services or activities that give rise to certain categories of income such as management fees.

#### Gross Income Tests

We must satisfy two gross income requirements annually. First, at least 75% of our gross income for each taxable year, excluding gross income from sales of inventory or dealer property in "prohibited transactions," must be derived from investments relating to real property or mortgages on real property, including "rents from real property;" dividends received from other REITs; interest income derived from mortgage loans secured by real property; income derived from a REMIC in proportion to the real estate assets held by the REMIC, unless at least 95% of the REMIC's assets are real estate assets, in which case all of the income derived from the REMIC is qualifying income; certain income from qualified temporary investments; and gains from the sale of real estate assets. Second, at least 95% of our gross income in each taxable year, excluding gross income from prohibited transactions, must be derived from some combination of income that qualifies under the 75% income test described above, as well as other dividends, interest, and gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities, which need not have any relation to real property. Income and gain from "hedging transactions," as defined in "—Hedging Transactions," that we enter into to hedge indebtedness incurred or to be incurred to acquire or carry real estate assets, as defined below (See "—Asset Tests") or to hedge certain foreign currency risks and that are clearly and timely identified as hedges will be excluded from both the numerator and the denominator for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests.

Rent that we receive from our real property will qualify as "rents from real property," which is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests, only if the following conditions are met:

- First, the rent must not be based, in whole or in part, on the income or profits of any person, but may be based on a fixed percentage or percentages of receipts or sales.
- Second, neither we nor a direct or indirect owner of 10% or more of our stock may own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of a tenant from whom we receive rent, other than with respect to certain leases to a TRS. Rent that we receive from a TRS under a lease of a "qualified health care property" will qualify as "rents from real property" as long as the "qualified health care property" is operated on behalf of the TRS by an "independent contractor" who is adequately compensated, who does not, directly or through its stockholders, own more than 35% of our shares, taking into account certain ownership attribution rules, and who is, or is related to a person who is, actively engaged in the trade or business of operating "qualified health care properties" for any person unrelated to us and our TRS lessee (an "eligible independent contractor"). A "qualified health care property" includes any real property and any personal property that is, or is necessary or incidental to the use of, a hospital, nursing facility, assisted living facility, congregate care facility, qualified continuing care facility or other licensed facility which extends medical or nursing or ancillary services to patients and which is operated by a provider of such services which is eligible for participation in the Medicare program with respect to such facility.

- Third, if the rent attributable to personal property leased in connection with a lease of real property is 15% or less of the total rent received under the lease, the rent attributable to personal property will qualify as rents from real property. However, if the 15% threshold is exceeded, the rent attributable to personal property will not qualify as rents from real property.
- Fourth, we generally must not operate or manage our real property or furnish or render services to our tenants, other than through an "independent contractor" who is adequately compensated and from whom we do not derive revenue. However, we may provide services directly to our tenants, if the services are "usually or customarily rendered" in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not considered to be provided for the tenants' convenience. In addition, we may directly provide a minimal amount of "non-customary" services to the tenants of a property, as long as our income from the services (valued at not less than 150% of our direct cost of performing such services) does not exceed 1% of our income from the property. Furthermore, we may own up to 100% of the stock of a TRS which may provide customary and non-customary services to our tenants without tainting our rental income for the related properties.

In order for the rent paid under our leases to constitute "rents from real property," our leases must be respected as true leases for federal income tax purposes and not treated as service contracts, joint ventures or some other type of arrangement. The determination of whether our leases are true leases depends on an analysis of all the surrounding facts and circumstances. In making such a determination, courts have considered a variety of factors, including the following:

- the intent of the parties;
- the form of the agreement;
- the degree of control over the property that is retained by the property owner (for example, whether the lessee has substantial control over the operation of the property or whether the lessee was required simply to use its best efforts to perform its obligations under the agreement); and
- the extent to which the property owner retains the risk of loss with respect to the property (for example, whether the lessee bears the risk of increases in operating expenses or the risk of damage to the property) or the potential for economic gain with respect to the property.

If we lease properties to our TRS, the TRS's management agreement with an eligible independent contractor must be respected as such. The federal income tax law provides that a contract that purports to be a service contract or a partnership agreement is treated instead as a lease of property if the contract is properly treated as such, taking into account all relevant factors. Since the determination of whether a service contract should be treated as a lease is inherently factual, the presence or absence of any single factor may not be dispositive in every case.

We currently intend to structure any leases we enter into so that they will qualify as true leases for federal income tax purposes. Our belief is based, in part, on the following facts:

- our operating partnership and the lessee intend for their relationship to be that of a lessor and lessee, and such relationship is documented by a lease agreement;
- the lessee will have the right to exclusive possession and use and quiet enjoyment of the property covered by the lease during the term of the lease;
- the lessee will bear the cost of, and will be responsible for, day-to-day maintenance and repair of the property other than the cost of certain capital expenditures, and dictate, either directly or through third-party operators that are eligible independent contractors who work for the lessee during the terms of the leases, how the property will be operated and maintained;

- the lessee generally will bear the costs and expenses of operating the property, including the cost of any inventory used in their operation, during the term of the lease;
- the lessee will benefit from any savings and bear the burdens of any increases in the costs of operating the property during the term of the lease;
- in the event of damage or destruction to a property, the lessee will be at economic risk because it will bear the economic burden of the loss in income from operation of the property subject to the right, in certain circumstances, to terminate the lease if the lessor does not restore the property to its prior condition;
- the lessee generally will indemnify the lessor against all liabilities imposed on the lessor during the term of the lease by reason of: (i) injury to persons or damage to property occurring at the property; (ii) the lessee's use, management, maintenance or repair of the property; (iii) taxes and assessments in respect of the property that are obligations of the lessees; (iv) any breach of the lessees by the lessees, and (v) the nonperformance of contractual obligations of the lessees with respect to the property;
- the lessee will be obligated to pay, at a minimum, material base rent for the period of use of the property under the lease;
- the lessee will stand to incur substantial losses or reap substantial gains depending on how successfully it, either directly or through the eligible independent contractors, operates the property;
- we expect that each lease that we enter into, at the time we enter into it (or at any time that any such lease is subsequently renewed or extended) will enable the applicable lessee to derive a meaningful profit, after expenses and taking into account the risks associated with the lease, from the operation of the property during the term of its lease; and
- upon termination of each lease, the applicable property will be expected to have a substantial remaining useful life and substantial remaining fair market value.

If our leases are characterized as service contracts or partnership agreements, rather than as true leases, part or all of the payments that our operating partnership and its subsidiaries receive from our percentage and other leases may not be considered rent or may not otherwise satisfy the various requirements for qualification as "rents from real property." In that case, we likely would not be able to satisfy either the 75% or 95% gross income test and, as a result, would lose our REIT status.

We expect to enter into sale-leaseback transactions. It is possible that the IRS could take the position that specific sale-leaseback transactions that we treat as true leases are financing arrangements or loans rather than true leases for federal income tax purposes. Recharacterization of a sale-leaseback transaction as a financing arrangement or loan could jeopardize our REIT status.

As described above, in order for the rent that we receive to constitute "rents from real property," several other requirements must be satisfied. First, percentage rent must not be based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. Percentage rent, however, will qualify as "rents from real property" if it is based on percentages of receipts or sales and the percentages are fixed at the time the percentage leases are entered into, are not renegotiated during the term of the percentage leases in a manner that has the effect of basing percentage rent on income or profits, and conform with normal business practice. More generally, percentage rent will not qualify as "rents from real property" if, considering the leases and all the surrounding circumstances, the arrangement does not conform with normal business practice, but is in reality used as a means of basing the percentage rent on income or profits.

Second, we must not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the shares or the assets or net profits of any lessee (a "related party tenant"), other than a TRS. The constructive ownership rules generally provide that, if 10% or more in value of our stock is owned, directly or indirectly, by or for any person, we are considered as owning the shares owned, directly or indirectly, by or for such person. We anticipate that all of our healthcare real

estate will be leased either to third parties which do not constitute related party tenants or to a TRS or disregarded subsidiary thereof, or a "TRS Lessee." In addition, our charter prohibits transfers of our stock that would cause us to own actually or constructively, 10% or more of the ownership interests in any non-TRS lessee. Based on the foregoing, we should never own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of any lessee other than a TRS. However, because the constructive ownership rules are broad and it is not possible to monitor continually direct and indirect transfers of our stock, no absolute assurance can be given that such transfers or other events of which we have no knowledge will not cause us to own constructively 10% or more of a lessee (or a subtenant, in which case only rent attributable to the subtenant is disqualified) other than a TRS at some future date.

Third, the rent attributable to the personal property leased in connection with the lease of real property must not be greater than 15% of the total rent received under the lease. The rent attributable to the personal property is the amount that bears the same ratio to total rent for the taxable year as the average of the fair market values of the personal property at the beginning and at the end of the taxable year bears to the average of the aggregate fair market values of both the real and personal property at the beginning and at the end of such taxable year (the "personal property ratio"). To comply with this limitation, our TRS lessee may acquire furnishings, equipment and other personal property. With respect to each healthcare property in which the TRS lessee or the applicable lessee does not own the personal property, we believe either that the personal property ratio will be less than 15% or that any rent attributable to excess personal property will not jeopardize our ability to qualify as a REIT. There can be no assurance, however, that the IRS would not challenge our calculation of a personal property ratio, or that a court would not uphold such assertion. If such a challenge were successfully asserted, we could fail to satisfy the 75% or 95% gross income test and thus potentially lose our REIT status.

Fourth, we cannot furnish or render non-customary services to the tenants of our real estate, or manage or operate our real estate, other than through an independent contractor who is adequately compensated and from whom we do not derive or receive any income. However, we need not provide services through an "independent contractor," but instead may provide services directly to our tenants, if the services are "usually or customarily rendered" in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not considered to be provided for the tenants' convenience. In addition, we may provide a minimal amount of "non-customary" services to the tenants of a property, other than through an independent contractor, as long as our income from the services does not exceed 1% of our income from the related property. Finally, we may own up to 100% of the shares of one or more TRSs, which may provide non-customary services to our tenants without tainting our rents from the related real estate, provided, however, that a TRS cannot manage or operate a lodging facility or a health care property. We will not perform any services other than customary ones for our lessees, unless such services are provided through independent contractors or TRSs.

If a portion of the rent that we receive does not qualify as "rents from real property" because the rent attributable to personal property exceeds 15% of the total rent for a taxable year, the portion of the rent that is attributable to personal property will not be qualifying income for purposes of either the 75% or 95% gross income test. Thus, if such rent attributable to personal property, plus any other income that is non-qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test, during a taxable year exceeds 5% of our gross income during the year, we would lose our REIT qualification. If, however, the rent from a particular healthcare property does not qualify as "rents from real property" because either: (i) the percentage rent is considered based on the income or profits of the lessee; (ii) the lessee either is a related party tenant or fails to qualify for the exceptions to the related party tenant rule for qualifying TRSs (including as a result of a senior housing facilities or other properties leased to our TRS failing to qualify as a "qualified health care property" or an operator engaged by our TRS to operate a "qualified health care property" failing to qualify as an "eligible independent contractor"); or (iii) we furnish non-customary services to the tenants or manage or operate a "qualified health care property," other than through a qualifying "eligible independent contractor" engaged by a TRS, none of the rent from such leases would qualify as "rents from real property." In that case, we might lose our REIT qualification because we would be unable to satisfy either the 75% or 95% gross income test.

In addition to the rent, the lessees are required to pay certain additional charges. To the extent that such additional charges represent reimbursements of amounts that we are obligated to pay to third parties, such as a lessee's proportionate share of a property's operational or capital expenses, such charges generally will qualify as

"rents from real property." To the extent such additional charges represent penalties for nonpayment or late payment of such amounts, such charges should qualify as "rents from real property." However, to the extent that late charges do not qualify as "rents from real property," they instead will be treated as interest that qualifies for the 95% gross income test.

Interest income constitutes qualifying mortgage interest for purposes of the 75% gross income test (as described above) to the extent that the obligation is secured by a mortgage on real property. If we receive interest income with respect to a mortgage loan that is secured by both real property and other property, and the highest principal amount of the loan outstanding during a taxable year exceeds the fair market value of the real property on the date that we have a binding commitment to acquire or originate the mortgage loan, the interest income will be apportioned between the real property and the other collateral, and its income from the arrangement will qualify for purposes of the 75% gross income test only to the extent that the interest is allocable to the real property. Even if a loan is not secured by real property or is undersecured, the income that it generates may nonetheless qualify for purposes of the 95% gross income test.

To the extent that the terms of a loan provide for contingent interest that is based on the cash proceeds realized upon the sale of the property securing the loan, or a shared appreciation provision, income attributable to the participation feature will be treated as gain from sale of the underlying property, which generally will be qualifying income for purposes of both the 75% and 95% gross income tests provided that the property is not inventory or dealer property in the hands of the borrower or the REIT.

To the extent that a REIT derives interest income from a mortgage loan or income from the rental of real property where all or a portion of the amount of interest or rental income payable is contingent, such income generally will qualify for purposes of the gross income tests only if it is based upon the gross receipts or sales, and not the net income or profits, of the borrower or lessee. This limitation does not apply, however, where the borrower or lessee leases substantially all of its interest in the property to tenants or subtenants, to the extent that the rental income derived by the borrower or lessee, as the case may be, would qualify as rents from real property had it been earned directly by a REIT.

We may originate and acquire mezzanine loans, which are loans secured by equity interests in an entity that directly or indirectly owns real property, rather than by a direct mortgage of the real property. IRS Revenue Procedure 2003-65 provides a safe harbor pursuant to which a mezzanine loan, if it meets each of the requirements contained in the revenue procedure, will be treated by the IRS as a real estate asset for purposes of the REIT asset tests described below, and interest derived from it will be treated as qualifying mortgage interest for purposes of the 75% gross income test. Although the revenue procedure provides a safe harbor on which taxpayers may rely, it does not prescribe rules of substantive tax law. Our mezzanine loans might not meet all of the requirements for reliance on this safe harbor. We intend to invest in mezzanine loans in a manner that will enable us to continue to satisfy the REIT gross income and asset tests.

We may receive distributions from TRSs or other corporations that are not REITs. These distributions will be classified as dividend income to the extent of the earnings and profits of the distributing corporation. Such distributions will generally constitute qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test but not the 75% gross income test. Any dividends we received from a REIT will be qualifying income for purposes of both the 75% and 95% gross income tests.

We may receive various fees in connection with our operations. The fees will be qualifying income for purposes of both the 75% and 95% gross income tests if they are received in consideration for entering into an agreement to make a loan secured by real property and the fees are not determined by the borrower's income and profits. Other fees are not qualifying income for purposes of either gross income test.

Any income or gain we derive from instruments that hedge certain risks, such as the risk of changes in interest rates with respect to debt incurred to acquire or carry real estate assets or certain foreign currency risks, will not be treated as income for purposes of calculating the 75% or 95% gross income test, provided that specified

requirements are met. Such requirements include the instrument is properly identified as a hedge, along with the risk that it hedges, within prescribed time periods.

If we fail to satisfy one or both of the 75% or 95% gross income tests for any taxable year, we may still qualify as a REIT for the year if we are entitled to relief under applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. These relief provisions will be generally available if our failure to meet these tests was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, we attach to our tax return a schedule of the sources of our income, and any incorrect information on the schedule was not due to fraud with intent to evade tax. It is not possible to state whether we would be entitled to the benefit of these relief provisions in all circumstances. If these relief provisions were inapplicable, we would not qualify as a REIT. As discussed above under "—Taxation of REITs in General," even where these relief provisions apply, a tax would be imposed upon the amount by which we fail to satisfy the particular gross income test, adjusted to reflect the profitability of such gross income.

#### Asset Tests

At the close of each calendar quarter, we must satisfy five tests relating to the nature of our assets. First, at least 75% of the value of our total assets must be represented by some combination of "real estate assets," cash, cash items and U.S. government securities. For this purpose, real estate assets include interests in real property, such as land, buildings, leasehold interests in real property, stock of other corporations that qualify as REITs, certain kinds of mortgage-backed securities and mortgage loans and, under some circumstances, stock or debt instruments purchased with new capital. Assets that do not qualify for purposes of the 75% asset test are subject to the additional asset tests described below.

Second, the value of any one issuer's securities owned by us may not exceed 5% of the value of our total assets.

Third, we may not own more than 10% of any one issuer's outstanding securities, as measured by either voting power or value. The 5% and 10% asset tests do not apply to securities of TRSs, and the 10% value test does not apply to "straight debt" and certain other securities, as described below.

Fourth, the aggregate value of all securities of TRSs held by a REIT may not exceed 25% of the value of the REIT's total assets.

Fifth, no more than 25% of the value of our total assets may consist of securities, including securities of TRSs that are not qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% test.

Notwithstanding the general rule that a REIT is treated as owning its share of the underlying assets of a subsidiary partnership for purposes of the REIT gross income and asset tests, if a REIT holds indebtedness issued by a partnership, the indebtedness will be subject to, and may cause a violation of, the asset tests, unless it is a qualifying mortgage asset or otherwise satisfies the rules for "straight debt" or one of the other exceptions to the 10% value test.

Certain securities will not cause a violation of the 10% value test described above. Such securities include instruments that constitute "straight debt." A security does not qualify as "straight debt" where a REIT (or a controlled TRS of the REIT) owns other securities of the issuer of that security which do not qualify as straight debt, unless the value of those other securities constitute, in the aggregate, 1% or less of the total value of that issuer's outstanding securities. In addition to straight debt, the following securities will not violate the 10% value test: (i) any loan made to an individual or an estate; (ii) certain rental agreements in which one or more payments are to be made in subsequent years (other than agreements between a REIT and certain persons related to the REIT); (iii) any obligation to pay rents from real property; (iv) securities issued by governmental entities that are not dependent in whole or in part on the profits of (or payments made by) a non-governmental entity; (v) any security issued by another REIT; and (vi) any debt instrument issued by a partnership if the partnership's income is such that the partnership would satisfy the 75% gross income test described above under "—Gross Income Tests." In applying the 10% value test, a debt security issued by a partnership is not taken into account to the extent, if any, of the REIT's proportionate interest in that partnership.

Any interests we hold in a REMIC are generally treated as qualifying real estate assets and income we derive from interests in REMICs is generally treated as qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests described above. If less than 95% of the assets of a REMIC are real estate assets, however, then only a proportionate part of our interest in the REMIC, and our income derived from the interest, qualifies for purposes of the REIT asset and income tests. We do not intend to hold any residual interests in REMICs which are subject to special rules.

We may hold certain mezzanine loans that do not qualify for the safe harbor in Revenue Procedure 2003-65 discussed above pursuant to which certain loans secured by a first priority security interest in equity interests in a pass-through entity that directly or indirectly own real property will be treated as qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% real estate asset test and therefore not be subject to the 10% vote or value test. In addition, such mezzanine loans may not qualify as "straight debt" securities or for one of the other exclusions from the definition of "securities" for purposes of the 10% value test. We intend to make any such investments in such a manner as not to fail the asset tests described above, but there can be no assurance we will be successful in this regard.

We may hold certain participation interests in mortgage loans and mezzanine loans originated by other lenders. Participation interests are interests in underlying loans created by virtue of participations or similar agreements to which the originators of the loans are parties, along with one or more participants. The borrower on the underlying loan is typically not a party to the participation agreement. The performance of this investment depends upon the performance of the underlying loan and, if the underlying borrower defaults, the participant typically has no recourse against the originator of the loan. The originator often retains a senior position in the underlying loan and grants junior participations which absorb losses first in the event of a default by the borrower. We generally expect to treat our participation interests in mortgage loans and mezzanine loans that qualify for safe harbor under Revenue Procedure 2003-65 as qualifying real estate assets for purposes of the REIT asset tests and interest that we derive from such investments as qualifying mortgage interest for purposes of the 75% gross income test discussed above. The appropriate treatment of participation interests for U.S. federal income tax purposes is not entirely certain, however, and no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge our treatment of our participation interests. In the event of a determination that such participation interests do not qualify as real estate assets, or that the income that we derive from such participation interests does not qualify as mortgage interest for purposes of the REIT asset and income tests, we could be subject to a penalty tax, or could fail to qualify as a REIT.

We generally expect to acquire CRE securities that will be qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% asset test. However, to the extent that we own non-REMIC collateralized mortgage obligations or other securities which do not qualify as "real estate" for REIT purposes, those securities will not be qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% asset test.

We hold interests in certain entities that have elected, or will elect, to be taxed as REITs. If they do not so qualify in any year, we would not satisfy the 10% assets tests and could fail to qualify as a REIT.

After initially meeting the asset tests at the close of any quarter, we will not lose our qualification as a REIT for failure to satisfy the asset tests at the end of a later quarter solely by reason of changes in asset values. If we fail to satisfy the asset tests because we acquire assets during a quarter, we can cure this failure by disposing of sufficient non-qualifying assets within 30 days after the close of that quarter. If we fail the 5% asset test, or the 10% vote or value asset tests at the end of any quarter and such failure is not cured within 30 days thereafter, we may dispose of sufficient assets (generally within six months after the last day of the quarter in which our identification of the failure to satisfy these asset tests occurred) to cure such a violation that does not exceed the lesser of 1% of our assets at the end of the relevant quarter or \$10 million. If we fail any of the other asset tests or our failure of the 5% and 10% asset tests is in excess of the de minimis amount described above, as long as such failure was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, we are permitted to avoid disqualification as a REIT, after the 30 day cure period, by taking steps including the disposition of sufficient assets to meet the asset test (generally within six months after the last day of the quarter in which our identification of the failure to satisfy the REIT asset test occurred) and paying a tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 or the highest corporate income tax rate (currently 35%) of the net income generated by the non-qualifying assets during the period in which we failed to satisfy the asset test.

We intend to monitor compliance with the asset tests on an ongoing basis. However, values of some assets, including instruments issued in securitization transactions, may not be susceptible to a precise determination, and values are subject to change in the future. Furthermore, the proper classification of an instrument as debt or equity for federal income tax purposes may be uncertain in some circumstances, which could affect the application of the REIT asset requirements. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not contend that we do not comply with one or more of the asset tests.

## **Annual Distribution Requirements**

In order to qualify as a REIT, we are required to distribute dividends, other than capital gain dividends, to our stockholders in an amount at least equal to:

- (a) the sum of:
  - (1) 90% of our "REIT taxable income" (computed without regard to its deduction for dividends paid and net capital gains); and
  - (2) 90% of our net income, if any, (after tax) from foreclosure property (as described below), minus
- (b) the sum of specified items of non-cash income.

These distributions must be paid in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if declared before we timely file our tax return for the year and if paid on or before the first regular dividend payment after such declaration. Distributions that we declare in October, November or December of any year payable to a stockholder of record on a specified date in any of these months will be treated as both paid by us and received by the stockholder on December 31 of the year, provided that we actually pay the distribution during January of the following calendar year.

In order for distributions to be counted for this purpose and to give rise to a tax deduction by us, they must not be "preferential dividends." A dividend is not a preferential dividend if it is pro rata among all outstanding shares of stock within a particular class, and is in accordance with the preferences among different classes of stock as set forth in our organizational documents.

To the extent that we distribute at least 90%, but less than 100%, of our "REIT taxable income," as adjusted, we will be subject to tax at the regular corporate tax rates on the retained portion. We may elect to retain, rather than distribute, our net long-term capital gains and pay tax on such gains. In this case, we could elect to have our stockholders include their proportionate share of such undistributed long-term capital gains in income and receive a corresponding credit for their share of the tax paid by us. Our stockholders would then increase the adjusted basis of their stock by the difference between the designated amounts included in their long-term capital gains and the tax deemed paid with respect to their shares.

To the extent that a REIT has available net operating losses carried forward from prior tax years, such losses may reduce the amount of distributions that it must make in order to comply with the REIT distribution requirements. Such losses, however, will generally not affect the character, in the hands of stockholders, of any distributions that are actually made by the REIT, which are generally taxable to stockholders to the extent that the REIT has current or accumulated earnings and profits.

If we fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of: (i) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for such year; (ii) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for such year; and (iii) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we would be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the sum of (a) the amounts actually distributed and (b) the amounts of income retained on which we have paid corporate income tax. We intend to make timely distributions so that we are not subject to the 4% excise tax.

It is possible that, from time-to-time, we may not have sufficient cash to meet the distribution requirements due to timing differences between the actual receipt of cash and our inclusion of items in income for federal income tax purposes. Potential sources of non-cash taxable income include real estate and securities that have been financed through securitization structures, such as the term-debt structure, which require some or all of available cash flows to be used to service borrowings, loans or mortgage-backed securities we hold that have been issued at a discount and require the accrual of taxable economic interest in advance of its receipt in cash, and distressed loans on which we may be required to accrue taxable interest income even though the borrower is unable to make current payments in cash. In the event that such timing differences occur, it might be necessary to arrange for short-term, or possibly long-term, borrowings to meet the distribution requirements or to pay dividends in the form of taxable in-kind distributions of property.

We may be able to cure a failure to meet the distribution requirements for a year attributable to adjustments to our REIT taxable income for such year by paying "deficiency dividends" to stockholders in a later year, which may be included in our deduction for dividends paid for the earlier year. In this case, we may be able to avoid losing our REIT status or being taxed on amounts distributed as deficiency dividends. However, we will be required to pay interest and possibly a penalty based on the amount of any deduction taken for deficiency dividends.

## Failure to Qualify

If we fail to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification, other than the gross income tests and the asset tests, we could avoid disqualification if our failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect and we pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure. In addition, there are relief provisions for a failure of the gross income tests and asset tests, as described in "—Gross Income Tests" and "—Asset Tests."

If we fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT in any taxable year, and the relief provisions do not apply, we will be subject to tax, including any applicable alternative minimum tax, on our taxable income at regular corporate rates. Distributions to stockholders in any year in which we are not a REIT would not be deductible by us, nor will they be required to be made. In this situation, to the extent of current and accumulated earnings and profits, all distributions to stockholders taxed as individuals may be eligible for a reduced rate applicable to "qualified dividends" and, subject to limitations of the Internal Revenue Code, corporate stockholders may be eligible for the dividends received deduction. Unless we are entitled to relief under specific statutory provisions, we will be disqualified from re-electing to be taxed as a REIT for the four taxable years following the year during which qualification was lost. It is not possible to state whether, in all circumstances, we will be entitled to this statutory relief.

#### **Prohibited Transactions**

Net income derived from a prohibited transaction is subject to a 100% tax. The term "prohibited transaction" generally includes a sale or other disposition of property (other than foreclosure property) that is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business, by a REIT, by a lower-tier partnership in which the REIT holds an equity interest or by a borrower that has issued a shared appreciation mortgage or similar debt instrument to the REIT. We conduct our operations so that no asset owned by us or our pass-through subsidiaries will be held for sale to customers, and that a sale of any such asset will not be in the ordinary course of business. Whether property is held "primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business" depends, however, on the particular facts and circumstances. No assurance can be given that any particular property in which we hold a direct or indirect interest will not be treated as property held for sale to customers, or that we can comply with certain safe-harbor provisions of the Internal Revenue Code that would prevent such treatment. The 100% tax will not apply to gains from the sale of property that is held through a TRS or other taxable corporation, although such income will be taxed to the corporation at regular corporate income tax rates.

# Foreclosure Property

Foreclosure property is real property (including interests in real property) and any personal property incident to such real property: (i) that is acquired by a REIT as the result of the REIT having bid in the property at foreclosure, or having otherwise reduced the property to ownership or possession by agreement or process of law, after there was

a default (or default was imminent) on a lease of the property or on a mortgage loan held by the REIT and secured by the property; (ii) for which the related loan or lease was acquired by the REIT at a time when default was not imminent or anticipated; and (iii) for which such REIT makes a proper election to treat the property as foreclosure property. REITs generally are subject to tax at the maximum corporate rate (currently 35%) on any net income from foreclosure property, including any gain from the disposition of the foreclosure property, other than income that would otherwise be qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test. Any gain from the sale of property for which a foreclosure property election has been made will not be subject to the 100% tax on gains from prohibited transactions described above, even if the property would otherwise constitute inventory or dealer property in the hands of the selling REIT. We do not anticipate that we will receive any income from foreclosure property that is not qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test, but, if we do receive any such income, we intend to make an election to treat the related property as foreclosure property.

# **Hedging Transactions**

We expect to enter into hedging transactions, from time-to-time, with respect to our assets or liabilities. Our hedging activities may include entering into interest rate swaps, caps, and floors, options to purchase these items, and futures and forward contracts. To the extent that we enter into an interest rate swap or cap contract, option, futures contract, forward rate agreement, or any similar financial instrument to hedge our indebtedness incurred or to be incurred to acquire or carry "real estate assets," including mortgage loans, or to hedge certain foreign currency risks, any periodic income or gain from the disposition of that contract are disregarded for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests. We are required to identify clearly any such hedging transaction before the close of the day on which it was acquired, originated, or entered into and satisfy other identification requirements. To the extent that we hedge for other purposes, or to the extent that a portion of our loans are not secured by "real estate assets" (as described under "—Asset Tests") or in other situations, the income from those transactions will likely be treated as non-qualifying income for purposes of both gross income tests. We intend to structure any hedging transactions in a manner that does not jeopardize our status as a REIT.

## Taxable Mortgage Pools

An entity, or a portion of an entity, may be classified as a taxable mortgage pool, or TMP, under the Internal Revenue Code if: (i) substantially all of its assets consist of debt obligations or interests in debt obligations; (ii) more than 50% of those debt obligations are real estate mortgages or interests in real estate mortgages as of specified testing dates; (iii) the entity has issued debt obligations (liabilities) that have two or more maturities; and (iv) the payments required to be made by the entity on its debt obligations (liabilities) "bear a relationship" to the payments to be received by the entity on the debt obligations that it holds as assets. Under Treasury Regulations, if less than 80% of the assets of an entity (or a portion of an entity) consist of debt obligations, these debt obligations are considered not to comprise "substantially all" of its assets, and therefore the entity would not be treated as a TMP.

Where an entity, or a portion of an entity, is classified as a TMP, it is generally treated as a taxable corporation for federal income tax purposes. Special rules apply, however, in the case of a TMP that is a REIT, a portion of a REIT or a disregarded subsidiary of a REIT. In that event, the TMP is not treated as a corporation that is subject to corporate income tax, and the TMP classification does not directly affect the tax status of the REIT. These special rules will not apply to us to the extent we hold all of our assets held through our operating partnership.

If a subsidiary partnership of ours (not wholly owned by us directly or indirectly through one or more disregarded entities), such as our operating partnership, were a TMP or owned a TMP, the foregoing rules would not apply. Rather, the TMP would be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes and would potentially be subject to corporate income tax. In addition, this characterization would alter our REIT gross income and asset test calculations and could adversely affect our compliance with those requirements, e.g., by causing us to be treated as owning more than 10% of the securities of a C corporation. Because we intend to hold substantially all of our assets, directly or indirectly, through our operating partnership, we will not acquire interests in taxable mortgage pools and will attempt to avoid securitization structures that may be treated as taxable mortgage pools.

## Cash/Income Differences

Our operating partnership may acquire debt instruments in the secondary market for less than their principal amount. The amount of such discount will generally be treated as a "market discount" for federal income tax purposes. It is also possible that certain debt instruments may provide for "payment-in-kind," or PIK, interest which could give rise to "original issue discount" for federal income tax purposes. Moreover, we may acquire distressed debt investments that are subsequently modified by agreement with the borrower. If the amendments to the outstanding debt are "significant modifications" under the applicable Treasury Regulations, the modified debt may be considered to have been reissued to us in a debt-for-debt exchange with the borrower. In that event, if the debt is considered to be "publicly traded" for federal income tax purposes, the modified debt in our hands may be considered to have been issued with original issue discount to the extent the fair-market value of the modified debt is less than the principal amount of the outstanding debt. In the event that the debt is not considered to be "publicly traded" for federal income tax purposes, we may be required to recognize taxable income to the extent that the principal amount of the modified debt exceeds our cost of purchasing it. Also, certain loans that we originate and certain previously modified debt we acquire may be considered to have been issued with the original issue discount of the time it was modified.

In general, our operating partnership will be required to accrue original issue discount on a debt instrument as taxable income in accordance with applicable federal income tax rules even though no cash payments may be received on such debt instrument. With respect to market discount, although generally our operating partnership is not required to accrue the discount annually as taxable income (absent an election to do so), interest payments with respect to any debt incurred to purchase the investment may not be deductible and a portion of any gain realized on our operating partnership's disposition of the debt instrument may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gain.

Finally, in the event that any debt instruments acquired by our operating partnership are delinquent as to mandatory principal and interest payments, or in the event a borrower with respect to a particular debt instrument acquired by our operating partnership encounters financial difficulty rendering it unable to pay stated interest as due, our operating partnership may nonetheless be required to continue to recognize the unpaid interest as taxable income. Similarly, our operating partnership may be required to accrue interest income with respect to subordinate mortgage-backed securities at the stated rate regardless of whether corresponding cash payments are received.

Due to each of these potential timing differences between income recognition or expense deduction and cash receipts or disbursements, there is a significant risk that our operating partnership may recognize and allocate to us substantial taxable income in excess of cash available for distribution. In that event, we may need to borrow funds or take other action to satisfy the REIT distribution requirements for the taxable year in which this income is recognized. See "—Annual Distribution Requirements."

## Tax Aspects of Investments in Partnerships

We will hold investments through entities, including our operating partnership, that are classified as partnerships for federal income tax purposes. In general, partnerships are "pass-through" entities that are not subject to federal income tax. Rather, partners are allocated their proportionate shares of the items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit of a partnership, and are potentially subject to tax on these items, without regard to whether the partners receive a distribution from the partnership. We will include in our income our proportionate share of these partnership items from subsidiary partnerships for purposes of the various REIT gross income tests and in the computation of our REIT taxable income. Moreover, for purposes of the REIT asset tests, we will include our proportionate share of assets held by subsidiary partnerships. See "—Effect of Subsidiary Entities—Ownership of Partnership Interests." Consequently, to the extent that we hold an equity interest in a partnership, the partnership's assets and operations may affect our ability to qualify as a REIT, even if we may have no control, or only limited influence, over the partnership.

## **Entity Classification**

Investment in partnerships involves special tax considerations, including the possibility of a challenge by the IRS of the status of any partnerships as a partnership, as opposed to an association taxable as a corporation, for federal income tax purposes (for example, if the IRS were to assert that a subsidiary partnership is a TMP). See "— Taxable Mortgage Pools." If any of these entities were treated as an association for federal income tax purposes, it would be taxable as a corporation and therefore could be subject to an entity-level tax on its income. In such a situation, the character of our assets and items of gross income would change and could preclude us from satisfying the REIT asset tests or the gross income tests as discussed in "—Asset Tests" and "—Gross Income Tests," and in turn could prevent us from qualifying as a REIT. See "—Failure to Qualify" above for a discussion of the effect of our failure to meet these tests for a taxable year. In addition, any change in the status of any of these partnerships for tax purposes might be treated as a taxable event, in which case we could have taxable income that is subject to the REIT distribution requirements without receiving any cash.

## Tax Allocations with Respect to Partnership Properties

Under the Internal Revenue Code and the Treasury Regulations, income, gain, loss and deduction attributable to appreciated or depreciated property that is contributed to a partnership in exchange for an interest in the partnership must be allocated for tax purposes in a manner such that the contributing partner is charged with, or benefits from, the unrealized gain or unrealized loss associated with the property at the time of the contribution. The amount of the unrealized gain or unrealized loss is generally equal to the difference between the fair market value of the contributed property at the time of contribution and the adjusted tax basis of such property at the time of contribution (a "book-tax difference"). Such allocations are solely for federal income tax purposes and do not affect the book capital accounts or other economic or legal arrangements among the partners.

To the extent that any of our partnerships acquire appreciated (or depreciated) properties by way of capital contributions from its partners, allocations of income, gain, loss and deduction would need to be made in a manner consistent with these requirements. Where a partner contributes cash to a partnership at a time that the partnership holds appreciated (or depreciated) property, the Treasury Regulations provide for a similar allocation of any existing book-tax difference to the other (i.e., non-contributing) partners. These rules may apply to the contribution by us to our operating partnerships of the cash proceeds received in offerings of our stock. As a result, we could be allocated greater or lesser amounts of depreciation and taxable income in respect of a partnership's properties than would be the case if all of the partnership's assets (including any contributed assets) had a tax basis equal to their fair market values at the time of any contributions to that partnership. This could cause us to recognize, over a period of time, taxable income in excess of cash flow from the partnership, which might adversely affect our ability to comply with the REIT distribution requirements discussed above.

#### State, Local and Foreign Taxes

We may be subject to state, local or foreign taxation in various jurisdictions, including those in which we and our subsidiaries transact business, own property or reside. The state, local or foreign tax treatment of us may not conform to the federal income tax treatment discussed above. Any foreign taxes incurred by us would not pass through to stockholders to be credited against their United States federal income tax liability. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the application and effect of state, local and foreign income and other tax laws on an investment in our common stock.

# Taxation of Holders of Our Common Stock

The following is a summary of certain additional federal income tax considerations with respect to the ownership of our common stock.

## Taxation of Taxable U.S. Stockholders

As used herein, the term "U.S. stockholder" means a holder of our common stock that for federal income tax purposes is:

- a citizen or resident of the U.S.;
- a corporation (including an entity treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes) created or
  organized in or under the laws of the U.S., any of its states or the District of Columbia;
- an estate whose income is subject to federal income taxation regardless of its source; or
- a trust if: (i) a U.S. court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of such trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust; or (ii) it has a valid election in place to be treated as a U.S. person.

If a partnership, entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes holds our common stock, the federal income tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner in a partnership that will hold our common stock, you should consult your tax advisor regarding the consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common stock by the partnership.

Medicare Tax on Unearned Income. High-income U.S. individuals, estates and trusts are subject to an additional 3.8% tax on net investment income. For these purposes, net investment income includes dividends and gains from sales of stock. In the case of an individual, the tax will be 3.8% of the lesser of: (i) the individual's net investment income; or (ii) the excess of the individual's modified adjusted gross income over (a) \$250,000 in the case of a married individual filing a joint return or a surviving spouse, (b) \$125,000 in the case of a married individual filing a separate return or (c) \$200,000 in the case of a single individual.

Taxation of U.S. Stockholders on Distributions on Our Common Stock. As long as we qualify as a REIT, a taxable U.S. stockholder generally must take into account as ordinary income distributions made out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits that we do not designate as capital gain dividends or retained long-term capital gain.

Dividends paid to corporate U.S. stockholders will not qualify for the dividends-received deduction generally available to corporations. In addition, dividends paid to a non-corporate U.S. stockholder generally will not qualify for the 20% maximum tax rate currently applicable for "qualified dividend income." Our ordinary dividends generally will be taxed at ordinary income rates, the current maximum rate currently being 39.6%. However, the reduced tax rate for qualified dividend income will apply to our ordinary dividends to the extent attributable: (i) to dividends received by us from non-REIT corporations, such as TRSs; and (ii) to income upon which we have paid corporate income tax (e.g., to the extent that we distribute less than 100% of our taxable income).

A U.S. stockholder generally will take into account as long-term capital gain any distributions that we designate as capital gain dividends without regard to the period for which the U.S. stockholder has held its common stock. See "—Capital Gains and Losses." A corporate U.S. stockholder, however, may be required to treat up to 20% of certain capital gain dividends as ordinary income.

We may elect to retain and pay income tax on the net long-term capital gain that we receive in a taxable year. In that case, to the extent that we designate such amount in a timely notice to such stockholder, a U.S. stockholder would be taxed on its proportionate share of its undistributed long-term capital gain. The U.S. stockholder would receive a credit for its proportionate share of the tax we paid. The U.S. stockholder would increase the basis in its stock by the amount of its proportionate share of our undistributed long-term capital gain, minus its share of the tax we paid.

To the extent that we make a distribution in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits, such distribution will not be taxable to a U.S. stockholder to the extent that it does not exceed the adjusted tax basis of the U.S. stockholder's common stock. Instead, such distribution will reduce the adjusted tax basis of such stock. To the extent that we make a distribution in excess of both our current and accumulated earnings and profits and the U.S.

stockholder's adjusted tax basis in its common stock, such stockholder will recognize long-term capital gain, or short-term capital gain if the common stock has been held for one year or less, assuming the common stock is a capital asset in the hands of the U.S. stockholder. In addition, if we declare a distribution in October, November, or December of any year that is payable to stockholders of record on a specified date in any such month, such distribution shall be treated as both paid by us and received by the U.S. stockholder on December 31 of such year, provided that we actually pay the distribution during January of the following calendar year.

Stockholders may not include in their individual income tax returns any of a REIT's net operating losses or capital losses. Instead, the REIT would carry over such losses for potential offset against its future income. Taxable distributions from us and gain from the disposition of our common stock will not be treated as passive activity income, and, therefore, stockholders generally will not be able to apply any "passive activity losses" to offset income they derive from our common stock, against such income. In addition, taxable distributions from us and gain from the disposition of our common stock generally may be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment interest limitations (although any capital gains so treated will not qualify for the lower 20% tax rate applicable to capital gains of U.S. stockholders taxed at individual rates). We will notify stockholders after the close of our taxable year as to the portions of our distributions attributable to that year that constitute ordinary income, return of capital and capital gain.

Taxation of U.S. Stockholders on the Disposition of Our Common Stock. In general, a U.S. stockholder's gain or loss realized upon a taxable disposition of our common stock will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. stockholder has held the common stock for more than one year and otherwise as short-term capital gain or loss. However, any loss upon a sale or exchange of common stock held by such stockholder for six months or less will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any actual or deemed distributions from us that such U.S. stockholder previously has characterized as long-term capital gain. All or a portion of any loss that a U.S. stockholder realizes upon a taxable disposition of the common stock may be disallowed if the U.S. stockholder purchases other common stock within 30 days before or after the disposition.

Capital Gains and Losses. The maximum tax rate on long-term capital gain applicable to U.S. stockholders taxed at individual rates currently is generally 20%. The maximum tax rate on long-term capital gain from the sale or exchange of "Section 1250 property," or depreciable real property, is 25% computed on the lesser of the total amount of the gain or the accumulated Section 1250 depreciation. With respect to distributions that we designate as capital gain dividends and any retained capital gain that we are deemed to distribute, we generally may designate whether such a distribution is taxable to our non-corporate stockholders at a 20% or 25% rate. A non-corporate taxpayer may deduct capital losses not offset by capital gains against its ordinary income only up to a maximum annual amount of \$3,000. A non-corporate taxpayer may carry forward unused capital losses indefinitely. A corporate taxpayer must pay tax on its net capital gain at ordinary corporate rates. A corporate taxpayer may deduct capital losses only to the extent of capital gains, with unused losses being carried back three years and forward five years.

Information Reporting Requirements and Backup Withholding. We will report to our stockholders and to the IRS the amount of distributions we pay during each calendar year and the amount of tax we withhold, if any. Under the backup withholding rules, a stockholder may be subject to backup withholding at the rate of 28% with respect to distributions unless such holder:

- is a corporation or comes within certain other exempt categories and, when required, demonstrates this fact;
   or
- provides a taxpayer identification number, certifies as to no loss of exemption from backup withholding and otherwise complies with the applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules.

A stockholder who does not provide us with its correct taxpayer identification number also may be subject to penalties imposed by the IRS. Any amount paid as backup withholding will be creditable against the stockholder's income tax liability.

Brokers that are required to report the gross proceeds from a sale of shares on Form 1099-B will also be required to report the customer's adjusted basis in the shares and whether any gain or loss with respect to the shares is long-term or short-term. In some cases, there may be alternative methods of determining the basis in shares that are disposed of, in which case your broker will apply a default method of its choosing if you do not indicate which method you choose to have applied. You should consult with your own tax advisor regarding the new reporting requirements and your election options.

If we take an organizational action such as a stock split, merger or acquisition that affects the tax basis of shares of covered stock or even make distributions that exceed our current or accumulated earning and profits, we will report to each stockholder and the Internal Revenue Service (or post on our website) a description of the action and the quantitative effect of that action on the tax basis of the applicable shares.

Brokers may be subject to transfer statement reporting on certain transactions not otherwise subject to the reporting requirements discussed above. Transfer statements, however, are issued only between "brokers" and are not issued to stockholders or the Internal Revenue Service.

Stockholders are encouraged to consult their tax advisors regarding the application of the information reporting rules discussed above to their investment in shares of our common stock.

## Taxation of Tax-Exempt Stockholders

Tax-exempt entities, including qualified employee pension and profit sharing trusts and IRAs, generally are exempt from federal income taxation. However, they are subject to taxation on their unrelated business taxable income. Dividend distributions from a REIT to an exempt employee pension trust generally do not constitute unrelated business taxable income, provided that the exempt employee pension trust does not otherwise use the shares of the REIT in an unrelated trade or business of the pension trust. However, if a tax-exempt stockholder were to finance its investment in our common stock with debt, a portion of the income that it receives from us would constitute unrelated business taxable income pursuant to the "debt-financed property" rules. In addition, dividends that are attributable to excess inclusion income, with respect to the REMIC residual interests or taxable mortgage pools, will constitute unrelated business taxable income in the hands of most tax-exempt stockholders. Furthermore, social clubs, voluntary employee benefit associations, supplemental unemployment benefit trusts and qualified group legal services plans that are exempt from taxation under special provisions of the federal income tax laws are subject to different unrelated business taxable income rules, which generally will require them to characterize distributions that they receive from us as unrelated business taxable income. Finally, in certain circumstances, a qualified employee pension or profit sharing trust that owns more than 10% of our stock is required to treat a percentage of the dividends that it receives from us as unrelated business taxable income. Such percentage is equal to the gross income that we derive from an unrelated trade or business, determined as if we were a pension trust, divided by our total gross income for the year in which we pay the dividends. That rule applies to a pension trust holding more than 10% of our stock only if:

- the percentage of our dividends that the tax-exempt trust would be required to treat as unrelated business taxable income is at least 5%;
- we qualify as a REIT by reason of the modification of the rule requiring that no more than 50% of our stock be owned by five or fewer individuals that allows the beneficiaries of the pension trust to be treated as holding our stock in proportion to their actuarial interests in the pension trust (see "Taxation of NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc.—Requirements for?Qualification—General"); and
- either: (i) one pension trust owns more than 25% of the value of our stock; or (ii) a group of pension trusts individually holding more than 10% of the value of our stock collectively owns more than 50% of the value of our stock.

## Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders

The term "non-U.S. stockholder" means a holder of our common stock that is neither a U.S. stockholder nor a partnership or an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. The rules governing federal income taxation of non-U.S. stockholders are complex. This section is only a summary of such rules. Non-U.S. stockholders are urged to consult their tax advisors to determine the impact of federal, state, local and non-U.S. income tax laws on the ownership of our common stock, including any reporting requirements.

After June 30, 2014, withholding at a rate of 30% will be required on dividends in respect of, and after December 31, 2018, withholding at a rate of 30% will be required on gross proceeds from the sale of shares of our common stock held by or through certain foreign financial institutions (including investment funds), unless such institution enters into an agreement with the Secretary of the Treasury (unless alternative procedures apply pursuant to an applicable intergovernmental agreement between the United States and the relevant foreign government) to report, on an annual basis, information with respect to shares in, and accounts maintained by, the institution to the extent such shares or accounts are held by certain U.S. persons or by certain non-U.S. entities that are wholly or partially owned by U.S. persons. Accordingly, the entity through which our shares are held will affect the determination of whether such withholding is required. Similarly, after June 30, 2014, dividends in respect of, and after December 31, 2018, gross proceeds from the sale of, our shares held by an investor that is a non-financial non-U.S. entity 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 U.S. owners" or (ii) provides certain information regarding the entity's "substantial U.S. owners," which we will in turn provide to the Secretary of the Treasury. Non-U.S. stockholders are encouraged to consult with their tax advisers regarding the possible implications of these rules on their investment in our common stock.

Ordinary Dividends. A non-U.S. stockholder that receives a distribution that is not attributable to gain from our sale or exchange of a "United States real property interest", or a USRPI, and that we do not designate as a capital gain dividend or retained capital gain will recognize ordinary income to the extent that we pay such distribution out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. A withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the distribution ordinarily will apply to such distribution unless an applicable tax treaty reduces or eliminates the tax. Any dividends that are attributable to excess inclusion income will be subject to the 30% withholding tax, without reduction for any otherwise applicable income tax treaty. If a distribution is treated as effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business, the non-U.S. stockholder generally will be subject to federal income tax on the distribution at graduated rates, in the same manner as U.S. stockholders are taxed with respect to such distribution, and a non-U.S. stockholder that is a corporation also may be subject to the 30% branch profits tax with respect to the distribution. We plan to withhold U.S. income tax at the rate of 30% on the gross amount of any such distribution paid to a non-U.S. stockholder unless either:

- a lower treaty rate applies and the non-U.S. stockholder furnishes to us an IRS Form W-8BEN evidencing eligibility for that reduced rate; or
- the non-U.S. stockholder furnishes to us an IRS Form W-8ECI claiming that the distribution is effectively
  connected income.

Capital Gain Dividends. For any year in which we qualify as a REIT, a non-U.S. stockholder will incur tax on distributions that are attributable to gain from our sale or exchange of a USRPI under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980, or FIRPTA. A USRPI includes certain interests in real property and stock in "United States real property holding corporations" but does not include interests solely as a creditor and, accordingly, does not include a debt instrument that does not provide for contingent payments based on the value of or income from real property interests. Under FIRPTA, a non-U.S. stockholder is taxed on distributions attributable to gain from sales of USRPIs as if such gain were effectively connected with a U.S. business of the non-U.S. stockholder. A non-U.S. stockholder thus would be taxed on such a distribution at the normal capital gains rates applicable to U.S. stockholders, subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of a nonresident alien individual. A non-U.S. corporate stockholder not entitled to treaty relief or exemption also may be subject to the 30% branch profits tax on such a distribution. There is a special 35% withholding rate for distributions

to non-US stockholders attributable to the REIT's gains from dispositions of USRPIs. A non-U.S. stockholder may receive a credit against its tax liability for the amount we withhold.

Capital gain dividends that are attributable to our sale of USRPIs would be treated as ordinary dividends rather than as gain from the sale of a USRPI, if: (i) our common stock is "regularly traded" on an established securities market in the United States; and (ii) the non-U.S. stockholder did not own more than 5% of our common stock at any time during the one-year period prior to the distribution. Such distributions would be subject to withholding tax on such capital gain distributions in the same manner as they are subject to withholding tax on ordinary dividends. Our stock is not regularly traded on an established securities market in the United States, and there is no assurance that it ever will be.

Capital gain dividends that are not attributable to our sale of USRPIs, e.g., distributions of gains from sales of debt instruments that are not USRPIs, generally will not be taxable to non-U.S. stockholders or subject to withholding tax.

Non-Dividend Distributions. A non-U.S. stockholder will not incur tax on a distribution in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits if the excess portion of such distribution does not exceed the adjusted basis of its common stock. Instead, the excess portion of such distribution will reduce the adjusted basis of such shares. A non-U.S. stockholder will be subject to tax on a distribution that exceeds both our current and accumulated earnings and profits and the adjusted basis of its common stock, if the non-U.S. stockholder otherwise would be subject to tax on gain from the sale or disposition of its common stock, as described below. Because we generally cannot determine at the time we make a distribution whether the distribution will exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits, we normally will withhold tax on the entire amount of any distribution at the same rate as we would withhold on an ordinary dividend. However, a non-U.S. stockholder may claim a refund of amounts that we withhold if we later determine that a distribution in fact exceeded our current and accumulated earnings and profits.

We may be required to withhold 10% of any distribution that exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits if our stock is a USRPI. Consequently, although we intend to withhold at a rate of 30% on the entire amount of any distribution, to the extent that we do not do so, we may withhold at a rate of 10% on any portion of a distribution not subject to withholding at a rate of 30%.

Dispositions of Our Common Stock. A non-U.S. stockholder generally will not incur tax under FIRPTA with respect to gain realized upon a disposition of our common stock as long as we: (i) are not a "United States real property holding corporation" during a specified testing period and certain procedural requirements are satisfied; or (ii) are a domestically controlled qualified investment entity. A "United States real property holding corporation" is a U.S. corporation that at any time during the applicable testing period owned USRPIs that exceed in value 50% of the value of the corporation's USRPIs, interests in real property located outside the United States, and other assets used in the corporation's trade or business. We have been a "United States real property holding corporation," and no assurance can be provided that we will not be a "United States real property holding corporation" in future periods. In addition, we believe that we are and have been a domestically controlled qualified investment entity, but we cannot assure you that we could substantiate that we are and have been a domestically controlled qualified investment entity or that we will be a domestically controlled qualified investment entity in the future. Even if we were a "United States real property holding corporation" and we were not a domestically controlled qualified investment entity, a non-U.S. stockholder that owned, actually or constructively, 5% or less of our common stock at all times during a specified testing period would not incur tax under FIRPTA if our common stock is "regularly traded" on an established securities market. Our stock is not regularly traded on an established securities market in the United States, and there is no assurance that it ever will be.

If the gain on the sale of our common stock were taxed under FIRPTA, a non-U.S. stockholder would be taxed in the same manner as U.S. stockholders with respect to such gain, subject to applicable alternative minimum tax or, a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals. Furthermore, a non-U.S. stockholder will incur tax on gain not subject to FIRPTA if: (i) the gain is effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder's U.S. trade or business, in which case the non-U.S. stockholder will be subject to the same treatment as U.S. stockholders with respect to such gain; or (ii) the non-U.S. stockholder is a nonresident alien individual who was

present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and has a "tax home" in the United States, in which case the non-U.S. stockholder will incur a 30% tax on his capital gains.

# Legislative or Other Actions Affecting REITs

The rules dealing with U.S. federal income taxation are constantly under review. No assurance can be given as to whether, when or in what form, the U.S. federal income tax laws applicable to us and our stockholders may be changed, possibly with retroactive effect. Changes to the federal tax laws and interpretations of federal tax laws could adversely affect an investment in shares of our common stock.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We are offering a maximum of 30,000,000 shares of our common stock to our existing stockholders pursuant to the DRP. Shares of our common stock issued pursuant to the DRP are initially being offered at \$9.69 per share, which is 95% of the offering price of the primary shares in our most recent public offering, as determined by our board of directors on January 29, 2015. By April 11, 2016, we expect to establish an estimated value per share of our common stock that we will disclose in a report that we publicly file with the SEC. At that time, shares issued pursuant to the DRP will be priced at 95% of such estimated per share value.

We will not pay any selling commissions, dealer manager fees or any other remuneration in connection with the sale of shares pursuant to the DRP.

# LIMITED LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND OTHERS

Subject to certain limitations, our charter limits the personal liability of our stockholders, directors and officers for monetary damages and provides that we will generally indemnify and pay or reimburse reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding to our directors, officers and advisor and our advisor's affiliates. In addition, we maintain a directors and officers liability insurance policy.

The Maryland General Corporation Law, or MGCL, 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, except for liability resulting from: (i) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services; or (ii) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment and which is material to the cause of action.

The MGCL requires a Maryland corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which our charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she is made or threatened to be made a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity. The MGCL allows directors and officers to be indemnified against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred in connection with a proceeding unless the following can be established:

- an act or omission of the director or officer was material to the cause of action adjudicated in 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
- with respect to any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe his act or omission was unlawful.

A court may order indemnification if it determines that the director or officer is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification, even though the director or officer did not meet the prescribed standard of conduct or was adjudged liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received. However, indemnification for an adverse judgment in a suit by the corporation or in its right, or for a judgment of liability on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received, is limited to expenses.

The MGCL permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer upon receipt of: (i) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification; and (ii) a written undertaking by him or her or on his or her behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed if it is ultimately determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

However, our charter provides that we may only indemnify our directors and our advisor and its affiliates for loss or liability suffered by them or hold them harmless for loss or liability suffered by us if all of the following conditions are met:

- the indemnitee has determined, in good faith, that the course of conduct that caused the loss or liability was in our best interests;
- the indemnitee was acting on our behalf or performing services for us;
- in the case of affiliated directors and our advisor or its affiliates, the liability or loss was not the result of negligence or misconduct;
- in the case of our independent directors, the liability or loss was not the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct; and
- the indemnification or agreement to hold harmless is recoverable only out of our net assets and not from our stockholders.

We have also agreed to indemnify and hold harmless our advisor and its affiliates performing services for us from specific claims and liabilities arising out of the performance of their obligations under our advisory agreement subject to the limitations set forth immediately above. As a result, we and our stockholders may be entitled to a more limited right of action than we would otherwise have if these indemnification rights were not included in our advisory agreement.

The general effect to investors of any arrangement under which any of our controlling persons, directors or officers are insured or indemnified against liability is a potential reduction in distributions resulting from our payment of premiums associated with insurance or any indemnification for which we do not have adequate insurance.

The SEC takes the position that indemnification against liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, is against public policy and unenforceable. Indemnification of our directors and our advisor or its affiliates will not be allowed for liabilities arising from or out of a violation of state or federal securities laws, unless one or more of the following conditions are met:

- there has been a successful adjudication on the merits of each count involving alleged securities law violations;
- such claims have been dismissed with prejudice on the merits by a court of competent jurisdiction; or
- a court of competent jurisdiction approves a settlement of the claims against the indemnitee and finds that
  indemnification of the settlement and the related costs should be made and the court considering the request
  for indemnification has been advised of the position of the SEC and of the published position of any state
  securities regulatory authority in which the securities were offered as to indemnification for violations of
  securities laws.

We may advance funds to our directors, our advisor and its affiliates for legal expenses and other costs incurred as a result of legal action for which indemnification is being sought only if all of the following conditions are met:

- the legal action relates to acts or omissions with respect to the performance of duties or services on behalf
  of us;
- the party seeking indemnification has provided us with written affirmation of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification;
- the legal action is initiated by a third-party who is not a stockholder or the legal action is initiated by a stockholder acting in his or her capacity as such and a court of competent jurisdiction approves such advancement; and
- the party seeking indemnification provides us with a written agreement to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by us, together with the applicable legal rate of interest thereon, in cases in which it is ultimately determined that such party did not comply with the requisite standard of conduct and is found not to be entitled to indemnification.

Indemnification may reduce the legal remedies available to us and our stockholders against the indemnified individuals. The aforementioned charter provisions do not reduce the exposure of directors and officers to liability under federal or state securities laws, nor do they limit a stockholder's ability to obtain injunctive relief or other equitable remedies for a violation of a director's or an officer's duties to us or our stockholders, although the equitable remedies may not be an effective remedy in some circumstances.

We have entered into indemnification agreements with each of our executive officers and directors. The indemnification agreements require, among other things, that we indemnify our executive officers and directors and advance to the executive officers and directors all related expenses, subject to reimbursement if it is subsequently determined that indemnification is not permitted. In accordance with these agreements, we must indemnify and advance all expenses incurred by executive officers and directors seeking to enforce their rights under the indemnification agreements.

### **LEGAL MATTERS**

The legality of the shares of our common stock being offered hereby has been passed upon for us by Venable LLP. The statements relating to certain federal income tax matters under the caption "U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" have been reviewed by and our qualifications as a REIT for federal income tax purposes has been passed upon by Alston & Bird LLP, Atlanta, Georgia.

## **EXPERTS**

The audited consolidated financial statements of NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc. and subsidiaries incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement, have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the report of Grant Thornton LLP, independent registered public accountants upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of Ranger Predecessor and Eclipse Predecessor (each as defined in our Current Report on Form 8-K/A, filed with the SEC on July 22, 2014) incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement, have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the reports of BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated herein by reference, given on the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The audited financial statements of Five Long Island Properties, LLC incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement, have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the report of Cerini & Associates, LLP, independent registered public accountants upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements and schedule of Griffin-American Healthcare REIT II, Inc. as of December 31, 2013 and 2012 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2013, appearing in our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 9, 2014 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Fountains Senior Living Holdings, LLC and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014, and for the year then ended, appearing in our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on August 14, 2015 have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, included therein and incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

## INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and later information filed with the SEC will update and supersede this information. The documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Section 13 (a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act until the DRP is terminated comprise the incorporated documents:

- Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 filed with the SEC on March 27, 2015;
- Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015, filed with the SEC on May 15, 2015, for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, filed with the SEC on August 14, 2015, and for the quarter ended September 30, 2015, filed with the SEC on November 12, 2015;
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 9, 2014, February 2, 2015, February 25, 2015, April 7, 2015, April 15, 2015, May 26, 2015, June 5, 2015, July 1, 2015, July 8, 2015, September 15, 2015 and December 2, 2015;
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K/A filed with the SEC on March 14, 2014, July 22, 2014, October 2, 2014 and August 14, 2015.
- Our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on April 28, 2015; and
- The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A (File No. 000-55190) filed with the SEC on April 28, 2014.

We will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request of that person and at no cost, a copy of any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus (or incorporated into the documents that this prospectus incorporates by reference). Requests should be directed to NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc., Attn: Investor Relations, 399 Park Avenue, 18th Floor, New York, New York 10022, (212) 547-2600.

# WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are subject to the information requirements of the Exchange Act. Therefore, we file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may inspect and copy reports, proxy statements and other information we file with the SEC at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the public reference room by calling the SEC at1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, stockholders will receive annual reports containing audited financial statements with a report thereon by our independent certified public accountants, and quarterly reports containing

unaudited summary financial information for each of the first three quarters of each fiscal year. This prospectus does not contain all information set forth in the Registration Statement and Exhibits thereto which we have filed with the SEC under the Securities Act and to which reference is hereby made. We file information electronically with the SEC, and the SEC maintains a web site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC. The address of the SEC's web site is http://www.sec.gov.

#### APPENDIX A

## AMENDED AND RESTATED DISTRIBUTION REINVESTMENT PLAN

This DISTRIBUTION REINVESTMENT PLAN ("Plan") is adopted by NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), pursuant to its charter (the "Charter"). Unless otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Charter.

- 1. Distribution Reinvestment. As agent for the stockholders ("Stockholders") of the Company who: (i) purchase shares of the Company's common stock ("Shares") pursuant to the Company's initial public offering (the "Initial Offering"); or (ii) purchase Shares pursuant to any future offering of the Company ("Future Offering"), and who elect to participate in the Plan (the "Participants"), the Company will apply all distributions declared and paid in respect of the Shares held by each Participant and designated for inclusion in the Plan (the "Distributions"), including Distributions paid with respect to any full or fractional Shares acquired under the Plan, to the purchase of Shares for such Participants directly, if permitted under state securities laws and, if not, through our Dealer Manager or Soliciting Dealers registered in the Participant's state of residence. A Participant may designate all or a portion of his or her shares for inclusion in the Plan, provided that Distributions will be reinvested only with respect to Shares under the Plan.
- 2. *Effective Date*. The effective date of this Plan shall be the same as the effective date of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (File No. 333-199125).
- 3. Procedure for Participation. Any Stockholder who has received a Prospectus, as contained in the Company's registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), may elect to become a Participant by completing and executing the subscription agreement, an enrollment form or any other appropriate authorization form as may be available from the Company, our Dealer Manager or a Soliciting Dealer. Participation in the Plan will begin with the next Distribution payable after acceptance of a Participant's subscription, enrollment or authorization. Shares will be purchased under the Plan on the date that Distributions are paid by the Company. The Company intends to make Distributions on a monthly basis. If at any time prior to the listing of the Shares on a national stock exchange there is a material change in the Participant's financial condition, including the failure to meet the minimum income and net worth standards imposed by such Participant's state of residence for making an investment in the Company, or such Participant cannot make the other representations or warranties set forth in the Prospectus and the subscription agreement, the Company requests that such Participant promptly notify the Company in writing. For the avoidance of doubt, this request in no way shifts the responsibility of the Company's sponsor, and broker-dealers and registered investment advisors recommending the purchase of Shares, to make every reasonable effort to determine that the purchase of Shares is a suitable and appropriate investment based on information provided by the investor.
- 4. Purchase of Shares. Participants will acquire Shares from the Company under the Plan (the "Plan Shares") at a price equal to \$9.69 per Share. Pursuant to amended Rules 2310 and 2340 of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"), the Company expects to establish an estimated value per Share by April 11, 2016 (the "Valuation Date"). On the Valuation Date and annually thereafter, the Company will establish an estimated value per share of the Company's Shares based on an independent appraisal of the Company's assets and liabilities in compliance with FINRA rules. If the Company's primary offering is ongoing on the Valuation Date, the Company may adjust its primary offering price based on the Company's estimated per share value, and the Shares issued pursuant to the Plan will be priced at 95% of the Company's new primary offering price. If the Company's primary offering is not ongoing on the Valuation Date or on the date of any subsequent valuation, the shares issued pursuant to the Plan will be priced at 95% of the most recently determined estimated per share value of the Shares. Participants in the Plan may also purchase fractional Shares so that 100% of the Distributions will be used to acquire Shares. However, a Participant will not be able to acquire Plan Shares to the extent that any such purchase would cause such Participant to exceed the Aggregate Share Ownership Limit or the Common Share Ownership Limit as set forth in the Charter or otherwise would cause a violation of the Share ownership restrictions set forth in the Charter.

Shares to be distributed by the Company in connection with the Plan may (but are not required to) be supplied from: (i) the Plan Shares which will be registered with the SEC in connection with the Company's Initial Offering; (ii) Shares to be registered with the SEC in a Future Offering for use in the Plan (a "Future Registration"); or (iii) Shares purchased by the Company for the Plan in a secondary market (if available) or on a stock exchange (if listed) (collectively, the "Secondary Market").

Shares purchased in any Secondary Market will be purchased at the then-prevailing market price, which price will be utilized for purposes of issuing Shares in the Plan. Shares acquired by the Company in any Secondary Market or registered in a Future Registration for use in the Plan may be at prices lower or higher than the Share price which will be paid for the Plan Shares pursuant to the Initial Offering.

If the Company acquires Shares in any Secondary Market for use in the Plan, the Company shall use its reasonable efforts to acquire Shares at the lowest price then reasonably available. However, the Company does not in any respect guarantee or warrant that the Shares so acquired and purchased by the Participant in the Plan will be at the lowest possible price. Further, irrespective of the Company's ability to acquire Shares in any Secondary Market or to make a Future Offering for Shares to be used in the Plan, the Company is in no way obligated to do either, in its sole discretion.

- 5. Taxes. REINVESTMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS DOES NOT RELIEVE A PARTICIPANT OF ANY INCOME TAX LIABILITY WHICH MAY BE PAYABLE ON THE DISTRIBUTIONS.
- 6. *Share Certificates*. The ownership of the Shares purchased through the Plan will be in book-entry form unless and until the Company issues certificates for its outstanding common stock.
- 7. Reports. Within 90 days after the end of the Company's fiscal year, the Company shall provide each Stockholder with an individualized report on such Stockholder's investment, including the purchase date(s), purchase price and number of Shares owned, as well as the dates of Distributions and amounts of Distributions paid during the prior fiscal year. In addition, the Company shall provide to each Participant an individualized quarterly report during the quarter showing the number of Shares owned as of the last report, the amount of the Distributions since the last report and the number of Shares owned as of the date of the report.
- 8. Termination by Participant. A Participant may terminate participation in the Plan at any time, without penalty, by delivering to the Company a written notice. Prior to the listing of the Shares on a national stock exchange, any transfer of Shares by a Participant to a non-Participant will terminate participation in the Plan with respect to the transferred Shares. If a Participant terminates Plan participation, the Company will ensure that the terminating Participant's account will reflect the whole number of shares in such Participant's account and provide a check for the cash value of any fractional share in such account. Upon termination of Plan participation for any reason, Distributions will be distributed to the Stockholder in cash.
- 9. Amendment or Termination of Plan by the Company. The Board of Directors of the Company may by majority vote (including a majority of the Independent Directors) amend or terminate the Plan for any reason, except to eliminate a Participant's ability to withdraw from the Plan, upon ten days written notice to the Participants.
- 10. Liability of the Company. The Company shall not be liable for any act done in good faith, or for any good faith omission to act, including, without limitation, any claims or liability: (i) arising out of failure to terminate a Participant's account upon such Participant's death prior to receipt of notice in writing of such death; or (ii) with respect to the time and the prices at which Shares are purchased or sold for a Participant's account. To the extent that indemnification may apply to liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the securities laws of a particular state, the Company has been advised that, in the opinion of the SEC and certain state securities commissioners, such indemnification is contrary to public policy and, therefore, unenforceable.





# Distribution Change

1. Account Information				
Name of Trust/Corporation/Plan/Other (please print)		SSN or TIN of Trust/Corporation/Plan/Other		
Investor/Trustee/Authorized Signer (please print)		SSN/TIN of Investor/Trustee/Authorized Signer		
Co-Investor/Co-Trustee/Co-Authorized Signer (if applicable)		SSN/TIN of Co-Investor/Co-Trustee/Co-Authorized Signer		
NorthStar Account Number		Custodian's Account Number (if applicable)		
2. Distribution Information				
Distribution Reinvestment Plan (DRP)*  * In the event that the DRP is not offered for a distribution, your distribution will be sent by check to the address on record or to your Custodian for deposit in your Custodial account.	%	Fill out information below If you checked Cash: Send check to a third party or Cash: Direct Deposit via ACH.  Financial Institution/Third Party		
Cash Distribution (Choose One Only)  Cash: Send check to my Custodian. (custodian accounts only)	%	Address City		
Cash: Send check to the address on record. (non-custodian accounts only)	%	State Zip Code		
Cash: Send check to a third party - fill out information to the right. (non-custodian accounts only)	%	ABA Routing Number (direct deposit via ACH only)		
Cash: Direct Deposit via ACH - fill out information to the right. (non-custodian accounts only)	%	Account Number		
Total of DRP and Cash	100%	Checking Savings Brokerage/Other (attach a voided, pre-printed check or deposit slip) (send check to a third party only)		
3. Signature Execution				
Signature of Investor/Trustee/Authorized Signer Date		Signature of Co-Investor/Co-Trustee/ Co-Authorized Signer		
Signature of Custodian	Date			
		Medallion Signature Guarantee - Custodian		

Return to: NorthStar Healthcare, c/o DST Systems, Inc. • P.O. Box 219923 • Kansas City, MO • 64121-9923 • Express/Overnight delivery: NorthStar Healthcare, c/o DST Systems, Inc. • 430 W. 7th St., Kansas City, MO • 64105-1047

Fax: 866.825.1373 | NorthStar Investor Relations: 877.940.8777