

Brookdale Senior Living Inc.
Form 424B5
September 08, 2014
Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-196586

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, and we are not soliciting offers to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT, dated September 8, 2014.

(To prospectus dated June 6, 2014)

8,750,000 Shares

Brookdale Senior Living Inc.

Common Stock

We are offering up to 8,750,000 shares of our common stock in this offering. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol **BKD** . The last reported sale price of our common stock on September 5, 2014 was \$34.69 per share.

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. See Risk Factors on page S-7 of this prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You should read this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus carefully before you make your investment decision.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$
Proceeds to us before expenses	\$	\$

We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 1,312,500 additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price less underwriting discounts.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission, state securities regulators, nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is accurate or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The shares will be ready for delivery on or about September , 2014.

Joint Book Runners

BofA Merrill Lynch

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Co-Managers

CS Capital Advisors, LLC

RBC Capital Markets

The date of this prospectus supplement is September , 2014

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</u>	S-ii
<u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	S-ii
<u>PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY</u>	S-1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	S-7
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-7
<u>PRICE RANGE OF OUR COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDENDS</u>	S-8
<u>U.S. FEDERAL INCOME AND ESTATE TAX CONSIDERATIONS TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS</u>	S-9
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-13
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-19
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-19
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	S-19

Prospectus

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	ii
<u>SUMMARY</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	2
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	2
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED DIVIDENDS</u>	3
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	7
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	9
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	13
<u>EXPERTS</u>	13
<u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	14
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	16

We and the underwriters have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information or to make representations as to matters not stated or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus required to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. You must not rely on unauthorized information. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus may be used only where it is legal to sell these securities. The information in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference is only accurate on the respective dates of such documents.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is comprised of two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of the offering of the shares of common stock and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which provides more general information. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus supplement, on the one hand, and the information contained in the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated herein and therein by reference, on the other hand, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any documents incorporated by reference (including statements with respect to the integration of Emeritus and the transactions contemplated by the Master Agreement (as defined herein)) may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Those forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties and include all statements that are not historical statements of fact and those regarding our intent, belief or expectations, including, but not limited to, statements relating to our operational initiatives and growth strategies and our expectations regarding their effect on our results; our expectations regarding the economy, the senior living industry, occupancy, revenue, cash flow, operating income, expenses, capital expenditures, Program Max opportunities, cost savings, the demand for senior housing, the home resale market, expansion, development and construction activity, acquisition opportunities, asset dispositions, our share repurchase program, taxes, capital deployment, returns on invested capital and Cash From Facility Operations; our expectations regarding returns to shareholders and our growth prospects; our expectations concerning the future performance of recently acquired communities and the effects of acquisitions on our financial results; our ability to secure financing or repay, replace or extend existing debt at or prior to maturity; our ability to remain in compliance with all of our debt and lease agreements (including the financial covenants contained therein); our expectations regarding liquidity and leverage; our expectations regarding financings and refinancings of assets (including the timing thereof) and their effect on our results; our expectations regarding changes in government reimbursement programs and their effect on our results; our plans to generate growth organically through occupancy improvements, increases in annual rental rates and the achievement of operating efficiencies and cost savings; our plans to expand our offering of ancillary services (therapy, home health and hospice); our plans to expand, renovate, redevelop and reposition existing communities; our plans to acquire additional communities, asset portfolios, operating companies and home health agencies; the expected project costs for our expansion, redevelopment and repositioning program; our expected levels of expenditures and reimbursements (and the timing thereof); our expectations regarding our sales, marketing and branding initiatives and their impact on our results; our expectations for the performance of our entrance fee communities; our ability to anticipate, manage and address industry trends and their effect on our business; our expectations regarding the payment of dividends; our ability to increase revenues, earnings, Adjusted EBITDA, Cash From Facility Operations, and/or Facility Operating Income (as such terms are defined by incorporation by reference herein); and our expectations regarding the integration of Emeritus and the transactions contemplated by the Master Agreement. Words such as anticipate(s) , expect(s) , intend(s) , plan(s) , target(s) , project(s) , predict(s) , believe(s) , may , should , seek(s) , estimate(s) and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. These statements are based on management's current expectations and beliefs and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could lead to actual results differing materially from those projected, forecasted or expected. Although we believe the expectations reflected in any forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, we can give no assurance that our expectations will be attained and actual results could differ materially from those projected. Factors which could have a material adverse effect on our operations and future prospects or which could cause events and circumstances to differ from the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited

to, the risk associated with the current global economic situation and its impact upon capital

S-ii

Table of Contents

markets and liquidity; changes in governmental reimbursement programs; our inability to extend (or refinance) debt (including our credit and letter of credit facilities) as it matures; the risk that we may not be able to satisfy the conditions precedent to exercising the extension options associated with certain of our debt agreements; events which adversely affect the ability of seniors to afford our monthly resident fees or entrance fees; the conditions of housing markets in certain geographic areas; our ability to generate sufficient cash flow to cover required interest and long-term operating lease payments; the effect of our indebtedness and long-term operating leases on our liquidity; the risk of loss of property pursuant to our mortgage debt and long-term lease obligations; the possibilities that changes in the capital markets, including changes in interest rates and/or credit spreads, or other factors could make financing more expensive or unavailable to us; our determination from time to time to purchase any shares under the repurchase program; our ability to fund any repurchases; our ability to effectively manage our growth; our ability to maintain consistent quality control; delays in obtaining regulatory approvals; the risk that we may not be able to expand, redevelop and reposition our communities in accordance with our plans; our ability to complete acquisitions and integrate them into our operations; competition for the acquisition of assets; our ability to obtain additional capital on terms acceptable to us; a decrease in the overall demand for senior housing; our vulnerability to economic downturns; acts of nature in certain geographic areas; terminations of our resident agreements and vacancies in the living spaces we lease; early terminations or non-renewal of management agreements; increased competition for skilled personnel; increased union activity; departure of our key officers; increases in market interest rates; environmental contamination at any of our communities; failure to comply with existing environmental laws; an adverse determination or resolution of complaints filed against us; the cost and difficulty of complying with increasing and evolving regulation; risks relating to the integration of Emeritus and the transactions contemplated by the Master Agreement, including in respect of unanticipated difficulties and/or expenditures relating to such transactions; the impact of such transactions on our relationships with residents, employees and third parties; and the inability to obtain, or delays in obtaining cost savings and synergies from such transactions; as well as other risks detailed from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, press releases and other communications, including those set forth under Risk Factors on page S-7 of this prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date such statement was made. We expressly disclaim any obligation to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in our expectations with regard thereto or change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference. This summary does not contain all of the information you should consider before investing in our common stock. You should read this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, carefully before making an investment decision, especially the risks of investing in our common stock discussed under Risk Factors herein and therein and the consolidated financial statements and notes to those consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference herein and therein.

Unless the context suggests otherwise, references in this prospectus supplement to Brookdale, the Company, we, us and our refer to Brookdale Senior Living Inc. and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, except where it is clear that the term refers only to the parent company.

Unless otherwise indicated, the information contained in this prospectus supplement assumes that the underwriter's option to purchase additional shares is not exercised.

Brookdale Senior Living Inc.

As of June 30, 2014, we are the largest operator of senior living communities in the United States based on total capacity, with 647 communities in 36 states and the ability to serve approximately 66,000 residents. We offer our residents access to a full continuum of services across the most attractive sectors of the senior living industry. As of June 30, 2014, we operated in six business segments: retirement centers, assisted living, continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs) rental, CCRCs entry fee, Brookdale Ancillary Services (formerly known as Innovative Senior Care) and management services.

As of June 30, 2014, we operated 74 retirement center communities with 14,258 units, 440 assisted living communities with 22,501 units, 26 rental CCRC communities with 6,526 units, 15 entry fee CCRC communities with 6,058 units and 92 communities with 16,989 units where we provide management services for third parties or joint ventures in which we have an ownership interest. We offer therapy services to approximately 52,300 of our units and home health services to approximately 47,400 of our units. The majority of our units are located in campus settings or communities containing multiple services, including CCRCs. For the quarter ended June 30, 2014, the weighted average occupancy rate for our owned/leased communities was 88.1%. We generate approximately 80.2% of our resident fee revenues from private pay customers. For the period ended June 30, 2014, 42.1% of our resident and management fee revenues were generated from owned communities, 47.0% from leased communities, 9.8% from our Brookdale Ancillary Services business and 1.1% from management fees from communities we operate on behalf of third parties or joint ventures.

Our principal executive offices are located at 111 Westwood Place, Suite 400, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027 and our telephone number at that address is (615) 221-2250. Our website address is www.brookdale.com. The information on, or accessible through, our website is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus and should not be relied upon in connection with making any investment decision with respect to the securities offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

Recent Developments

Merger Transaction

On July 31, 2014, we completed the previously announced merger contemplated by that certain Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement), dated as of February 20, 2014, by and among Emeritus Corporation, a Washington corporation (Emeritus), us and Broadway Merger Sub Corporation, a

S-1

Table of Contents

Delaware corporation (Merger Sub) and our wholly owned subsidiary. Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, Merger Sub merged with and into Emeritus (the Merger), with Emeritus continuing as the surviving corporation in the Merger and a wholly owned subsidiary of us.

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, at the Effective Time (as defined in the Merger Agreement): (i) each share of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (Emeritus Common Stock), of Emeritus outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time (other than shares (x) held by us or Emeritus or any of their wholly owned subsidiaries or (y) with respect to which appraisal rights were properly demanded and not withdrawn under Washington law) was automatically cancelled and converted into the right to receive consideration equal to 0.95 (the Exchange Ratio) of a share of our common stock, par value of \$0.01 (Brookdale Common Stock), with cash paid in lieu of fractional shares; (ii) each share of Emeritus restricted stock outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, whether or not then vested, became fully vested and was treated as a share of Emeritus Common Stock, and was cancelled and converted in the same way as all other outstanding shares of Emeritus Common Stock, as described above; and (iii) each Emeritus stock option outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time was automatically cancelled and converted into the right of the holder to receive a number of whole shares of Brookdale Common Stock, determined by (A) multiplying (x) the total number of shares subject to Emeritus stock option by (y) an amount equal to the Applicable Closing Price, less the exercise price per share for such option, and (B) dividing such amount by the ten-day volume weighted average closing price of Brookdale Common Stock (the VWAP). The number of shares of Brookdale Common Stock issued to holders of Emeritus stock options and to certain electing holders of Emeritus restricted stock was reduced to cover the minimum amount of any applicable tax withholdings. Emeritus stock options with an exercise price that was equal to or greater than the Applicable Closing Price were terminated and ceased to be outstanding, without any payment of consideration. The Applicable Closing Price for purposes of the Merger Agreement was calculated by multiplying the VWAP by the Exchange Ratio.

The foregoing description of the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the Merger Agreement, a copy of which was attached as Exhibit 2.1 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on February 21, 2014, which is incorporated into this prospectus supplement by reference.

As a result of the Merger, as of the Effective Time, we directly or indirectly acquired entities that are lessees under operating and capital leases covering 311 communities, as well as certain other leases such as office leases and leases associated with Emeritus Nurse on Call business. We also directly or indirectly acquired entities which own 185 communities. The community leases contain customary terms, including assignment and change of control restrictions, maintenance and capital expenditure obligations, termination provisions and financial covenants. In connection with the closing of the Merger, we entered into guarantees of certain of these leases.

In addition, as a result of the Merger, as of the Effective Time, we directly or indirectly assumed approximately \$1.4 billion aggregate principal amount of existing mortgage indebtedness of Emeritus. The mortgage loans are collateralized by a total of 182 underlying communities, bear interest either at fixed rates at a weighted average of 6.07% per annum or at variable rates at a weighted average of 5.19% per annum (in each case, as of June 30, 2014), and have remaining maturities ranging from approximately three months to 33 years. The mortgage loans contain customary terms including assignment and change of control restrictions, acceleration provisions and financial covenants. In connection with the closing of the Merger, we entered into guarantees of certain of these debt arrangements.

Master Agreement

On August 29, 2014, we completed the previously announced transactions contemplated by that certain Master Contribution and Transactions Agreement (the Master Agreement), dated as of April 23, 2014, by and

S-2

Table of Contents

between us and HCP, Inc., a Maryland corporation ("HCP"). At the closing of the transactions contemplated by the Master Agreement (the "Closing"), we and HCP entered into two joint venture transactions and amended the terms of certain existing agreements between us and HCP and/or certain of their respective affiliates (including Emeritus).

Joint Venture Transactions

Each of the joint ventures contemplated by the Master Agreement uses a "RIDEA" structure, whereby at the Closing each of us and HCP invested in an "opco" joint venture and a "propco" joint venture. The propco owns most of the applicable communities and will lease such communities to the opco pursuant to long-term leases entered into at the Closing. The opco owns the remainder of the applicable communities not owned by the propco, and at the Closing the opco engaged one of our affiliates to manage all of the owned and leased communities pursuant to management agreements with 15-year terms subject to certain extension options.

Joint Venture Relating to our and HCP's CCRC Entrance Fee Communities. At the Closing, we and HCP entered into a joint venture with respect to certain continuing care retirement / entrance fee ("CCRC") communities previously owned by HCP or us and leased and/or operated by us. We own a 51% ownership interest, and HCP owns a 49% ownership interest, in each of the propco and opco. Pursuant to the terms of the Master Agreement, at the Closing we contributed to the joint venture eight wholly-owned entities (owning eight CCRC communities subject, in certain cases, to existing debt) and certain purchase options with respect to the HCP Communities (as defined below), and HCP contributed to the joint venture three wholly-owned entities (owning three properties in two CCRC communities (the "HCP Communities")). One additional property to be contributed by us is under construction and will be contributed to the joint venture subject to existing debt, upon the earlier of the first anniversary of the Closing and receipt of the certificate of occupancy for such community. In addition to the 10 CCRC communities, at the Closing we contributed our rights and obligations under previously executed purchase agreements (which were entered into on April 22, 2014 by us and provided for the acquisition by us, independent of the joint venture transaction, of four communities managed by us for an aggregate purchase price of \$323.5 million, including fees associated with the prepayment of certain debt), HCP contributed \$323.5 million in cash for such purchases and the joint venture completed such purchases immediately following the Closing. Each of the communities in the joint venture is managed by one of our affiliates pursuant to management agreements entered into at the Closing, and we have agreed to guarantee certain obligations of the manager under the applicable management agreements. Each of the propco and opco is governed by a board of managers consisting of six members, with three representatives each appointed by us and HCP.

Joint Venture Relating to Certain Emeritus / HCP Communities. At the Closing, we and HCP entered into a joint venture with respect to certain independent living, assisted living, memory care and/or skilled nursing care communities previously owned by HCP and leased and operated by Emeritus. We own a 20% ownership interest, and HCP owns an 80% ownership interest, in each of the propco and opco. Pursuant to the terms of the Master Agreement, at the Closing an HCP affiliate made a loan to one of our subsidiaries, which was guaranteed by us, in the original principal amount of approximately \$68 million to fund our initial capital contribution to the joint venture. HCP contributed to propco 49 communities. In addition, prior to the Closing, an HCP affiliate made a mezzanine loan to another affiliate of HCP in the principal amount of approximately \$628 million that was assumed by propco at the Closing, which loan has a term of seven years, provides for interest at an average annual rate of 11.4% for the first three years, at an annual rate of 5.5% for years four and five, at an annual rate of 5.75% in year six and at an annual rate of 6.0% in year seven, and is secured by a pledge of equity interests in the direct subsidiary of propco. At the Closing, propco, through its subsidiaries, leased the communities to subsidiaries of opco. Each of the communities in the joint venture is managed by one of our affiliates, and we have agreed to guarantee certain obligations of the manager under the applicable management agreements.

S-3

Table of Contents

Pursuant to the terms of the Master Agreement, we will pay to HCP a fee related to the lease restructuring in the amount of \$34 million, which fee will be payable over a two year period.

Amendments to Existing Agreements (including Triple Net Leases)

At the Closing, we and HCP amended and restated (i) that certain Master Lease and Security Agreement, dated as of October 31, 2012, by and between Emeritus and certain affiliates of HCP, with respect to 112 communities, and (ii) certain other triple net leases between Emeritus and affiliates of HCP, with respect to 41 communities, together into a single master lease with the communities subject thereto separated into three pools (the Master Lease). The term of the Master Lease is 14 years for the pool 1 communities, 15 years for the pool 2 communities and 16 years for the pool 3 communities, with an average of approximately fifteen years, in each case subject to two extension options of approximately ten years each, and the Master Lease is guaranteed by us. The Master Lease provides for total base rent in 2014 of \$158 million, with lower future rent payments and escalations compared to the existing leases. HCP has agreed to make available up to \$100 million for capital expenditures related to the communities during calendar years 2014 through 2017 at an initial lease rate of 7.0%. The Master Lease includes certain customary covenants, with respect to, among other things, capital expenditure requirements, restrictions on the ownership, operation and management of competing communities and transfer restrictions (including restrictions on changes of control of us). The Master Lease also includes customary events of default and remedies relating thereto. In addition, the Master Lease includes a purchase option in favor of us for up to ten communities at an aggregate purchase price not to exceed \$60 million. The purchase price for any acquisition pursuant to a purchase option will be financed by HCP with mortgage debt.

In connection with the transactions contemplated by the Master Agreement, at the Closing, (i) the parties terminated the purchase option rights granted by HCP to Emeritus pursuant to 49 of the existing Emeritus leases, (ii) the parties agreed to modify the existing term extension hurdle and incentive management fee structure applicable to an existing joint venture between us and HCP in respect of 20 independent living, assisted living, memory care and/or skilled nursing care communities, subject to obtaining the required lender consent and (iii) HCP released (and/or agreed to release, subject to obtaining the required lender consents) certain deposits and reserves posted by us and Emeritus and certain of their respective affiliates and held by HCP or its affiliates in connection with existing leases between the parties.

Directors and Officers

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement and the letter agreement, by and between us and Granger Cobb, the former President and Chief Executive Officer of Emeritus, as amended and restated as of May 22, 2014 (the Letter Agreement), Mr. Cobb's employment with Emeritus terminated as of the Effective Time and he was appointed to our board of directors as a Class I director (with a term to expire at our Annual Meeting of Stockholders). Mr. Cobb has not been appointed to serve on any committee of our board of directors.

In addition, the Letter Agreement provides that Mr. Cobb will provide consulting services to us beginning at the Effective Time and ending on the later of the third anniversary thereof or such later date as is mutually agreed between Mr. Cobb and us. In his role as a consultant, Mr. Cobb will provide services and advice regarding integration and transition matters, serve as an advisor to members of our senior management team, serve as an advisory member to our Senior Management Executive Committee, and assist with other special projects as requested.

In consideration of the consulting services, Mr. Cobb will receive an annual cash consulting fee of \$265,000, along with reimbursement of up to \$35,000 per year for premiums paid by Mr. Cobb in respect of certain life and disability insurance arrangements. In addition, Mr. Cobb will receive a grant of our restricted stock with a grant date value of

\$1.0 million, which will vest in equal annual installments over the three year period following the grant date, subject to his continued service as a consultant on the applicable vesting date.

S-4

Table of Contents

Mr. Cobb will not receive any cash or equity compensation for his service on our board of directors while he is also serving as a consultant to us, but he will be entitled to receive compensation as an outside director if he continues serving on our board of directors following the end of the consulting period.

On July 31, 2014, Kristin A. Ferge, previously our Executive Vice President and Treasurer, was named our Executive Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer and Treasurer and assumed the responsibilities of principal accounting officer from Mark W. Ohlendorf, who will continue serving as our President and Chief Financial Officer and will retain the responsibilities of principal financial officer.

Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation

On July 30, 2014, pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement and as approved by our stockholders at a special meeting held on July 10, 2014, we filed an amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the Charter Amendment) with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware. The Charter Amendment reflects an increase in the number of authorized shares of our Common Stock from 200 million to 400 million.

Revolving Credit Facility

We have commenced preliminary discussions with certain potential lending sources to amend and expand or replace our existing revolving credit facility. We currently expect that any new revolving credit facility would have a committed amount of approximately \$500 million and a maturity of three to five years. We expect that the new credit facility would be secured by a first priority mortgage on certain of our communities. The availability under the facility would vary from time to time as it would be based on borrowing base calculations related to the appraised value and performance of the communities securing the facility. We anticipate that potential interest rate spreads under the new credit facility would be modestly improved compared to the existing credit facility. There can be no assurances that we can enter into a new or amended credit facility on these terms or at all.

Table of Contents

THE OFFERING

Common stock offered by us in this offering	8,750,000 shares (or 10,062,500 shares if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares of our common stock in full)
--	---

Common stock to be issued and outstanding after this offering	181,801,356 shares (or 183,113,856 shares if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares of our common stock in full)
--	--

Use of proceeds

We estimate that the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$287,500,000 (or \$330,700,000 if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares of our common stock in full), after deducting the expenses of this offering. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to finance the exercise of purchase options on certain communities we currently lease, to repay certain outstanding indebtedness and for other general corporate purposes, which may include additional debt repayments and the acceleration of capital investments in our communities and corporate infrastructure platform. See **Use of Proceeds** in this prospectus supplement.

New York Stock Exchange symbol	BKD
---------------------------------------	-----

Risk factors	Please read the section entitled Risk Factors on page S-7 of this prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference for a discussion of some of the factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our common stock.
---------------------	--

The number of shares of common stock to be issued and outstanding after this offering is based on 173,051,356 shares of common stock issued and outstanding as of September 5, 2014, and excludes 3,650,575 shares of unvested restricted stock and an additional aggregate of 8,286,780 shares of common stock that will remain available for issuance under our stock incentive and purchase plans and for restricted stock units vested where the shares have not been issued. The number of shares of common stock to be issued and outstanding after the offering does not include any shares of common stock that may be issued pursuant to our convertible senior notes and warrants. Except as otherwise indicated, all information in this prospectus supplement assumes no exercise by the underwriter of its option to purchase up to 1,312,500 additional shares of our common stock.

S-6

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in shares of our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding to invest in our common stock, you should carefully consider the risk factors incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, including in the section entitled "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and June 30, 2014, which were filed with the SEC on May 12, 2014 and August 11, 2014, respectively, as well as other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. The occurrence of any of these risks could materially and adversely affect our business, prospects, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow, in which case, the trading price of our shares of common stock would decline and you could lose all or part of your investment.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$287,500,000 (or \$330,700,000 if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares of our common stock in full), after deducting the expenses of this offering. We expect the net proceeds to be used as follows: (i) approximately \$60 million to finance the exercise of purchase options with respect to certain communities that we currently lease (and for which we will receive an 8.2% yield on the purchase price of communities acquired through reduction of rent that would otherwise be payable); (ii) approximately \$121 million to repay certain outstanding indebtedness, with maturities ranging between June 2015 and August 2022 and a weighted average interest rate of 7.3%; and (iii) for other general corporate purposes, which may include additional debt repayments to facilitate the contemplated expansion or replacement of our existing revolving credit facility or otherwise and the acceleration of capital investments in our communities and corporate infrastructure platform. Pending such uses, we may temporarily invest the proceeds in short-term, interest-bearing instruments, money market accounts or temporarily repay outstanding borrowings under our existing credit facility, which currently has a borrowing capacity of approximately \$205 million and a maturity of March 31, 2018.

Table of Contents**PRICE RANGE OF OUR COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDENDS**

Our common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange, or the NYSE, under the symbol BKD. The following table sets forth the quarterly high and low sales prices of our common stock on the NYSE for the periods indicated.

	High	Low
Year ending December 31, 2011		
First Quarter	\$ 28.23	\$ 20.90
Second Quarter	\$ 28.30	\$ 21.97
Third Quarter	\$ 25.51	\$ 12.27
Fourth Quarter	\$ 17.54	\$ 10.98
Year ending December 31, 2012		
First Quarter	\$ 19.96	\$ 15.43
Second Quarter	\$ 19.78	\$ 14.99
Third Quarter	\$ 23.97	\$ 15.62
Fourth Quarter	\$ 26.11	\$ 21.28
Year ending December 31, 2013		
First Quarter	\$ 29.92	\$ 25.04
Second Quarter	\$ 30.31	\$ 25.31
Third Quarter	\$ 30.65	\$ 24.42
Fourth Quarter	\$ 30.00	\$ 25.46
Year ending December 31, 2014		
First Quarter	\$ 34.37	\$ 26.10
Second Quarter	\$ 34.80	\$ 29.50
Third Quarter (through September 5, 2014)	\$ 36.18	\$ 32.26

On September 5, 2014, the closing sale price of our common stock as reported on the NYSE was \$34.69 per share, and we had approximately 388 holders of record of our common stock.

Dividend Policy

On December 30, 2008, our Board of Directors voted to suspend our quarterly cash dividend indefinitely and no dividends were declared during the last five fiscal years. Although we anticipate that, over the longer-term, we may pay regular quarterly dividends to the holders of our common stock, over the near term we are focused on deploying capital in the growth of our business. Accordingly, we do not expect to pay cash dividends on our common stock for the foreseeable future.

Our ability to pay and maintain cash dividends in the future will be based on many factors, including then-existing contractual restrictions or limitations, our ability to execute our growth strategy, our ability to negotiate favorable lease and other contractual terms, anticipated operating expense levels, the level of demand for our units, occupancy rates, entrance fee sales results, the rates we charge, our liquidity position and actual results that may vary substantially from estimates. Some of the factors are beyond our control and a change in any such factor could affect our ability to pay or maintain dividends. We can give no assurance as to our ability to pay or maintain dividends in the future. We also cannot assure you that the level of dividends will be maintained or increase over time or that increases in demand for our units and monthly resident fees will increase our actual cash available for dividends to stockholders. As we have done in the past, we may also pay dividends in the future that exceed our net income for the relevant

period as calculated in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, or U.S. GAAP.

S-8

Table of Contents

U.S. FEDERAL INCOME AND ESTATE TAX

CONSIDERATIONS TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS

The following discussion is a summary of the anticipated U.S. federal income tax considerations generally applicable to the ownership and disposition of our common stock by Non-U.S. Holders (as defined below). This summary deals only with our common stock held as capital assets by holders who purchase common stock in this offering. This discussion does not cover all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to the ownership or disposition of our common stock by prospective investors in light of their particular circumstances. In particular, this discussion does not address all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to certain types of investors subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws, such as: persons holding common stock as part of a hedging, integrated, conversion or constructive sale transaction or a straddle, persons holding greater than 5% of the total fair market value of our common stock, U.S. expatriates, partnerships or entities or arrangements treated as a partnership or other pass-through entity for U.S. federal tax purposes (or investors therein), or U.S. Holders (as defined below).

Furthermore, this summary is based upon the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, the Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, all as of the date hereof. Such authorities may be repealed, revoked, modified or subject to differing interpretations, possibly on a retroactive basis, so as to result in U.S. federal income tax consequences different from those discussed below. This discussion does not address any state, local or non-U.S. tax considerations.

For purposes of this summary, a U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of our common stock that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes one of the following:

a citizen or an individual resident of the United States;

a corporation (or other entity taxable as a corporation) created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or

a trust if it (i) is subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or (ii) has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

Table of Contents

If a partnership or other entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds our common stock, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner in such partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partnership or a partner of a partnership holding our common stock, we particularly urge you to consult your tax advisors.

If you are considering the purchase of our common stock, we urge you to consult your tax advisors concerning the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences to you of the ownership and disposition of our common stock, as well as any consequences to you arising under state, local and non-U.S. tax laws.

The following discussion applies only to Non-U.S. Holders. A Non-U.S. Holder is a beneficial owner of our common stock (other than a partnership or an entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) that is not a U.S. Holder. Special rules may apply to you if you are a controlled foreign corporation or a passive foreign investment company, or are otherwise subject to special treatment under the Code. Any such holders should consult their tax advisors to determine the U.S. federal, state, local and non-U.S. income and other tax consequences that may be relevant to them.

Dividends

Dividends paid to you (to the extent paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes) generally will be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a 30% rate, or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable tax treaty. However, dividends that are effectively connected with a trade or business you conduct within the United States, and, if required by an applicable tax treaty, dividends that are attributable to a permanent establishment you maintain in the United States, are not subject to such U.S. federal withholding tax, but instead are subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis at the applicable graduated individual or corporate rates. Special certification and disclosure requirements must be satisfied for effectively connected income to be exempt from withholding. If you are a corporation, any such effectively connected dividends that you receive may be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

If you wish to claim the benefit of an applicable treaty rate for dividends paid on our common stock, you must provide the withholding agent with a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E (or other applicable form), claiming an exemption from or reduction in withholding under the applicable income tax treaty, and certify under penalties of perjury that you (i) are not a United States person (as defined under the Code) and (ii) are eligible for the benefits of such treaty, and the withholding agent must not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the certification is incorrect. This certification must be provided to the applicable withholding agent prior to the payment of dividends and may be required to be updated periodically.

If you are eligible for a reduced rate of U.S. federal withholding tax pursuant to an applicable income tax treaty, you may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld by filing an appropriate claim for refund with the IRS.

Sale, Exchange or Other Taxable Disposition of Common Stock

You generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to gain recognized on a sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of shares of our common stock unless:

the gain is effectively connected with your conduct of a trade or business in the United States, or, if certain tax treaties apply, is attributable to a permanent establishment you maintain in the United States;

S-10

Table of Contents

if you are an individual and hold shares of our common stock as a capital asset, you are present in the United States for 183 or more days in the taxable year of the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition, and certain other requirements are met; or

we are or have been a United States real property holding corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes at any time during the shorter of the five-year period preceding such disposition and your holding period in the common stock, and (i) you beneficially own, or have owned, more than 5% of the total fair market value of our common stock at any time during the five-year period preceding such disposition, or (ii) our common stock has ceased to be traded on an established securities market prior to the beginning of the calendar year in which the sale or disposition occurs.

If you are an individual and are described in the first bullet above, you will be subject to tax on any gain derived from the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition at applicable graduated U.S. federal income tax rates. If you are an individual and are described in the second bullet above, you will generally be subject to a flat 30% tax on any gain derived from the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition that may be offset by U.S. source capital losses (even though you are not considered a resident of the United States). If you are a corporation and are described in the first bullet above, you will be subject to tax on your gain at applicable graduated U.S. federal income tax rates and, in addition, may be subject to the branch profits tax on your effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, which would include such gain, at a rate of 30% or at such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty, subject to adjustments.

We believe that we may be a United States real property holding corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Generally, a corporation is a U.S. real property holding corporation if the fair market value of its U.S. real property interests, as defined in the Code and applicable Treasury regulations, equals or exceeds 50% of the aggregate fair market value of its worldwide real property interests and its other assets used or held for use in a trade or business. If we are a United States real property holding corporation and you are a holder of greater than 5% of the total fair market value of our common stock, you should consult your tax advisor.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act

Withholding at a rate of 30% generally will be required in certain circumstances on dividends in respect of, and, after December 31, 2016, gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, shares of our common stock held by or through certain foreign financial institutions (including investment funds), unless such institution (i) enters into, and complies with, an agreement with the Internal Revenue Service to report, on an annual basis, information with respect to interests in, or accounts maintained by, the institution that are owned by certain U.S. persons or by certain non-U.S. entities that are wholly or partially owned by U.S. persons and to withhold on certain payments, or (ii) if required under an intergovernmental agreement between the United States and an applicable foreign country, reports such information to its local tax authority, which will exchange such information with the United States authorities. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and an applicable foreign country, or future U.S. Treasury regulations or other guidance, may modify these requirements. Accordingly, the entity through which our common stock is held will affect the determination of whether such withholding is required. Similarly, dividends in respect of, and after December 31, 2016, gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, our common stock held by an investor that is a non-financial non-U.S. entity that does not qualify under certain exceptions generally will be subject to withholding at a rate of 30%, unless such entity either (i) certifies that such entity does not have any substantial United States owners or (ii) provides certain information regarding the entity's substantial United States owners, which we will in turn provide to the Internal Revenue Service. We will not pay any additional amounts to stockholders in respect of any amounts withheld. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the possible implications of these rules on their investment in our common stock in light of their particular circumstances.

S-11

Table of Contents

U.S. Federal Estate Tax

Shares of our common stock held by an individual Non-U.S. Holder at the time of his or her death will be included in such Non-U.S. Holder's gross estate for U.S. federal estate tax purposes, unless an applicable estate tax treaty provides otherwise.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

You may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding with respect to any dividends on, and the proceeds from dispositions of, our common stock paid to you, unless you comply with certain reporting procedures (usually satisfied by providing an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E) or otherwise establish an exemption. Additional rules relating to information reporting requirements and backup withholding with respect to the payment of proceeds from the disposition of shares of our common stock will apply as follows:

If the proceeds are paid to or through the U.S. office of a broker (U.S. or foreign), they generally will be subject to backup withholding and information reporting, unless you certify that you are not a U.S. person under penalties of perjury (usually on an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E) or otherwise establish an exemption;

If the proceeds are paid to or through a non-U.S. office of a broker that is not a U.S. person and is not a foreign person with certain specified U.S. connections, or a U.S. Related Person, they will not be subject to backup withholding or information reporting; and

If the proceeds are paid to or through a non-U.S. office of a broker that is a U.S. person or a U.S. Related Person, they generally will be subject to information reporting (but not backup withholding), unless you certify that you are not a U.S. person under penalties of perjury (usually on an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E) or otherwise establish an exemption.

In addition, the amount of any dividends paid to you and the amount of tax, if any, withheld from such payment generally must be reported annually to you and the IRS. The IRS may make such information available under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty to the tax authorities in the country in which you reside. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a refund or a credit against your U.S. federal income tax liability provided the required information is timely furnished by you to the IRS. Non-U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the filing of a U.S. tax return for claiming a refund of such backup withholding.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and Goldman, Sachs and Co. are acting as representatives of each of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in an underwriting agreement among us and the underwriters, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters, and each of the underwriters has agreed, severally and not jointly, to purchase from us, the number of shares of common stock set forth opposite its name below.

<u>Underwriter</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated	
Goldman, Sachs & Co.	
CS Capital Advisors, LLC	
RBC Capital Markets, LLC	
Total	8,750,000

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement, the underwriters have agreed, severally and not jointly, to purchase all of the shares sold under the underwriting agreement if any of these shares are purchased. If an underwriter defaults, the underwriting agreement provides that the purchase commitments of the nondefaulting underwriters may be increased or the underwriting agreement may be terminated.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

The underwriters are offering the shares, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of legal matters by their counsel, including the validity of the shares, and other conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriters of officer's certificates and legal opinions. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

Commissions and Discounts

The representatives have advised us that the underwriters propose initially to offer the shares to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus and to dealers at that price less a concession not in excess of \$ per share.

The following table shows the public offering price, underwriting discount and proceeds before expenses to us. The information assumes either no exercise or full exercise by the underwriters of their option to purchase additional shares.

	Per Share	Without Option	With Option
Public offering price	\$	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$	\$

Proceeds, before expenses, to BKD	\$	\$	\$
-----------------------------------	----	----	----

The expenses of the offering, not including the underwriting discount, are estimated at \$500,000 and are payable by us.

S-13

Table of Contents

Option to Purchase Additional Shares

We have granted an option to the underwriters, exercisable for 30 days after the date of this prospectus, to purchase up to 1,312,500 additional shares at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount and commissions. If the underwriters exercise this option, each will be obligated, subject to conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, to purchase a number of additional shares proportionate to that underwriter's initial amount reflected in the above table.

No Sales of Similar Securities

We, our executive officers and directors have agreed, with certain limited exceptions, not to sell or transfer any common stock or securities convertible into, exchangeable for, exercisable for, or repayable with common stock, for 60 days after the date of this prospectus without first obtaining the written consent of the Representatives. Specifically, we and these other persons have agreed, with certain limited exceptions, not to directly or indirectly

offer, pledge, sell or contract to sell any common stock,

sell any option or contract to purchase any common stock,

purchase any option or contract to sell any common stock,

grant any option, right or warrant for the sale of any common stock,

lend or otherwise dispose of or transfer any common stock,

request or demand that we file a registration statement related to the common stock, or

enter into any swap or other agreement that transfers, in whole or in part, the economic consequence of ownership of any common stock whether any such swap or transaction is to be settled by delivery of shares or other securities, in cash or otherwise.

This lock-up provision applies to common stock and to securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for or repayable with common stock. It also applies to common stock owned now or acquired later by the person executing the agreement or for which the person executing the agreement later acquires the power of disposition.

New York Stock Exchange

The shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol BKD.

Price Stabilization, Short Positions

Until the distribution of the shares is completed, SEC rules may limit underwriters and selling group members from bidding for and purchasing our common stock. However, the representatives may engage in transactions that stabilize the price of the common stock, such as bids or purchases to peg, fix or maintain that price.

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell our common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, purchases on the open market to cover positions created by short sales and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater number of shares than they are required to purchase in the offering. Covered short sales are sales made in an amount not greater than the underwriters option to purchase additional shares described above. The underwriters may close out any covered short position by either exercising their option to purchase additional shares or purchasing shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered short position, the underwriters

S-14

Table of Contents

will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the option granted to them. Naked short sales are sales in excess of such option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of our common stock in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of various bids for or purchases of shares of common stock made by the underwriters in the open market prior to the completion of the offering.

Similar to other purchase transactions, the underwriters' purchases to cover the syndicate short sales may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of our common stock. As a result, the price of our common stock may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. The underwriters may conduct these transactions on the New York Stock Exchange, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

Neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of our common stock. In addition, neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation that the representatives will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Electronic Distribution

In connection with the offering, certain of the underwriters or securities dealers may distribute prospectuses by electronic means, such as e-mail.

Other Relationships

Some of the underwriters and their affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us or our affiliates. They have received, or may in the future receive, customary fees and commissions for these transactions.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the underwriters and their affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates. The underwriters and their affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area (each, a "Relevant Member State"), no offer of shares may be made to the public in that Relevant Member State other than:

- A. to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

- B. to fewer than 100 or, if the Relevant Member State has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150, natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representative[s]; or

C. in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of shares shall require the Company or the representative[s] to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

S-15

Table of Contents

Each person in a Relevant Member State who initially acquires any shares or to whom any offer is made will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that it is a qualified investor within the meaning of the law in that Relevant Member State implementing Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive. In the case of any shares being offered to a financial intermediary as that term is used in Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, each such financial intermediary will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that the shares acquired by it in the offer have not been acquired on a non-discretionary basis on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in circumstances which may give rise to an offer of any shares to the public other than their offer or resale in a Relevant Member State to qualified investors as so defined or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the representative[s] has been obtained to each such proposed offer or resale.

The Company, the representative[s] and their affiliates will rely upon the truth and accuracy of the foregoing representations, acknowledgements and agreements.

This prospectus has been prepared on the basis that any offer of shares in any Relevant Member State will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of shares. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant Member State of shares which are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Company or any of the underwriters to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive in relation to such offer. Neither the Company nor the underwriters have authorized, nor do they authorize, the making of any offer of shares in circumstances in which an obligation arises for the Company or the underwriters to publish a prospectus for such offer.

For the purpose of the above provisions, the expression an offer to the public in relation to any shares in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the shares, as the same may be varied in the Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in the Relevant Member State and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the Relevant Member States) and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member State and the expression 2010 PD Amending Directive means Directive 2010/73/EU.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

In addition, in the United Kingdom, this document is being distributed only to, and is directed only at, and any offer subsequently made may only be directed at persons who are qualified investors (as defined in the Prospectus Directive) (i) who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19 (5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Order) and/or (ii) who are high net worth companies (or persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated) falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). This document must not be acted on or relied on in the United Kingdom by persons who are not relevant persons. In the United Kingdom, any investment or investment activity to which this document relates is only available to, and will be engaged in with, relevant persons.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland

The shares may not be publicly offered in Switzerland and will not be listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (SIX) or on any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. This document has been prepared without regard to the disclosure standards for issuance prospectuses under art. 652a or art. 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations or

the disclosure standards for listing prospectuses under art. 27 ff. of the SIX Listing Rules or the listing rules of any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the shares or the offering may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

S-16

Table of Contents

Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the offering, the Company, the shares have been or will be filed with or approved by any Swiss regulatory authority. In particular, this document will not be filed with, and the offer of shares will not be supervised by, the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA (FINMA), and the offer of shares has not been and will not be authorized under the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes (CISA). The investor protection afforded to acquirers of interests in collective investment schemes under the CISA does not extend to acquirers of shares.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the Dubai International Financial Centre

This prospectus supplement relates to an Exempt Offer in accordance with the Offered Securities Rules of the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA). This prospectus supplement is intended for distribution only to persons of a type specified in the Offered Securities Rules of the DFSA. It must not be delivered to, or relied on by, any other person. The DFSA has no responsibility for reviewing or verifying any documents in connection with Exempt Offers. The DFSA has not approved this prospectus supplement nor taken steps to verify the information set forth herein and has no responsibility for the prospectus supplement. The shares to which this prospectus supplement relates may be illiquid and/or subject to restrictions on their resale. Prospective purchasers of the shares offered should conduct their own due diligence on the shares. If you do not understand the contents of this prospectus supplement you should consult an authorized financial advisor.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Australia

No placement document, prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document has been lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), in relation to the offering. This prospectus does not constitute a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act 2001 (the Corporations Act), and does not purport to include the information required for a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act.

Any offer in Australia of the shares may only be made to persons (the Exempt Investors) who are sophisticated investors (within the meaning of section 708(8) of the Corporations Act), professional investors (within the meaning of section 708(11) of the Corporations Act) or otherwise pursuant to one or more exemptions contained in section 708 of the Corporations Act so that it is lawful to offer the shares without disclosure to investors under Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act.

The shares applied for by Exempt Investors in Australia must not be offered for sale in Australia in the period of 12 months after the date of allotment under the offering, except in circumstances where disclosure to investors under Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act would not be required pursuant to an exemption under section 708 of the Corporations Act or otherwise or where the offer is pursuant to a disclosure document which complies with Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act. Any person acquiring shares must observe such Australian on-sale restrictions.

This prospectus contains general information only and does not take account of the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. It does not contain any securities recommendations or financial product advice. Before making an investment decision, investors need to consider whether the information in this prospectus is appropriate to their needs, objectives and circumstances, and, if necessary, seek expert advice on those matters.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

The shares have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold in Hong Kong, by means of any document, other than (a) to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong and any rules made under that Ordinance; or (b) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus as defined in the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32) of Hong Kong or which

S-17

Table of Contents

do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of that Ordinance. No advertisement, invitation or document relating to the shares has been or may be issued or has been or may be in the possession of any person for the purposes of issue, whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere, which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public of Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan

The shares have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (Law No. 25 of 1948, as amended) and, accordingly, will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Japan, or for the benefit of any Japanese Person or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to any Japanese Person, except in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines promulgated by relevant Japanese governmental or regulatory authorities in effect at the relevant time. For the purposes of this paragraph,

Japanese Person shall mean any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore

This prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the shares may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the shares be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the SFA), (ii) to a relevant person pursuant to Section 275(1), or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275, of the SFA, or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

Where the shares are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is:

- (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or
- (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an individual who is an accredited investor, securities (as defined in Section 239(1) of the SFA) of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferred within six months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the shares pursuant to an offer made under Section 275 of the SFA except:
 - (a) to an institutional investor or to a relevant person defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA, or to any person arising from an offer referred to in Section 275(1A) or Section 276(4)(i)(B) of the SFA;

- (b) where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer;
- (c) where the transfer is by operation of law;
- (d) as specified in Section 276(7) of the SFA; or
- (e) as specified in Regulation 32 of the Securities and Futures (Offers of Investments) (Shares and Debentures) Regulations 2005 of Singapore.

S-18

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters will be passed upon for us by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York. Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP is representing the underwriters in this offering. Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP also represents us on a variety of past and current matters.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Brookdale Senior Living Inc. appearing in Brookdale Senior Living Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 (including the schedule appearing therein) and the effectiveness of Brookdale Senior Living Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2013 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Emeritus and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2013, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2013 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

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

We have filed a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with the SEC pursuant to which the common stock is being offered by this prospectus supplement. Neither this prospectus supplement nor the accompanying prospectus contains all the information contained in the registration statement because certain parts of the registration statement are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. The registration statement and the documents filed as exhibits to the registration statement are available for inspection and copying as described above.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered part of this prospectus supplement, and information filed with the SEC subsequent to this prospectus supplement and prior to the termination of the offering referred to in this prospectus supplement will automatically be deemed to update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus the documents listed below (excluding any portions of such documents that have been furnished but not filed for purposes of the Exchange Act):

Edgar Filing: Brookdale Senior Living Inc. - Form 424B5

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, filed with the SEC on March 3, 2014, as amended by our Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2013, filed on April 30, 2014 with the SEC;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended March 31, 2014 and June 30, 2014, filed on May 12, 2014 and August 11, 2014, respectively, with the SEC;

S-19

Table of Contents

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 21, 2014, April 23, 2014, April 25, 2014, May 27, 2014, June 2, 2014, June 3, 2014, June 5, 2014, June 27, 2014, July 8, 2014, July 10, 2014, August 5, 2014 and September 3, 2014 (other than the portions of those documents not deemed to be filed pursuant to the rules promulgated under the Exchange Act), and

the description of our common stock set forth in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on October 11, 2005, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

We also incorporate by reference any future filings made with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act between the date of this prospectus supplement and the date all of the securities offered hereby are sold or this offering is otherwise terminated, with the exception of any information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K (including any related exhibits), which is not deemed filed and which is not incorporated by reference herein. Any such filings shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference and to be a part of this prospectus supplement from the respective dates of filing of those documents.

We will provide without charge upon written or oral request to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus supplement is delivered, a copy of any and all of the documents which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement but not delivered with this prospectus supplement (other than exhibits unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference in such documents).

You may request a copy of these documents by writing or telephoning us at:

Brookdale Senior Living Inc., Attn: Secretary

111 Westwood Place, Suite 400

Brentwood, Tennessee 37027

(615) 221-2250

S-20

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

BROOKDALE SENIOR LIVING INC.

COMMON STOCK

PREFERRED STOCK

DEBT SECURITIES

We may offer and sell, from time to time in one or more offerings, any combination of common stock, preferred stock and debt securities on terms to be determined at the time of offering.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities. We will provide the specific prices and terms of these securities in one or more supplements to this prospectus at the time of the offering. You should read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement carefully before you make your investment decision.

We may offer and sell these securities through underwriters, dealers or agents or directly to purchasers, on a continuous or delayed basis. The prospectus supplement for each offering will describe in detail the plan of distribution for that offering and will set forth the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the offering and any applicable fees, commissions or discount arrangements.

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

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

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should read the section entitled Risk Factors beginning on page 2 before buying our securities. This information may also be included in any supplement and/or may be incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

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

The date of this prospectus is June 6, 2014.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	ii
<u>SUMMARY</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	2
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	2
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED DIVIDENDS</u>	3
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	7
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	9
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	13
<u>EXPERTS</u>	13
<u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	14
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	16
EX-5.1	
EX-12.1	
EX-23.1	
EX 23.2	

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of an automatic shelf registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, as a well known seasoned issuer as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act. Under the shelf process, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings.

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

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

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

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

In this prospectus, unless otherwise specified or the context requires otherwise, we use the terms **Brookdale**, **the Company**, **we**, **us** and **our** to refer to Brookdale Senior Living Inc. and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, except where it is clear that the term refers only to the parent company.

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

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

Brookdale Senior Living Inc.

We are the largest operator of senior living communities in the United States based on total capacity, with 647 communities in 36 states and the ability to serve approximately 66,000 residents. We offer our residents access to a full continuum of services across the most attractive sectors of the senior living industry. As of March 31, 2014, we operated in six business segments: retirement centers, assisted living, continuing care retirement communities, or CCRCs rental, CCRCs entry fee, Brookdale Ancillary Services (formerly known as Innovative Senior Care) and management services.

As of March 31, 2014, we operated 74 retirement center communities with 14,256 units, 440 assisted living communities with 22,483 units, 26 rental CCRC communities with 6,527 units, 15 entry fee CCRC communities with 6,062 units and 92 communities with 16,996 units where we provide management services for third parties or joint ventures in which we have an ownership interest. We offer therapy services to approximately 52,100 of our units and home health services to approximately 47,300 of our units. The majority of our units are located in campus settings or communities containing multiple services, including CCRCs. For the three months ended March 31, 2014, the weighted average occupancy rate for our owned/leased communities was 88.6%. We generate approximately 80.0% of our resident fee revenues from private pay customers. For the three months ended March 31, 2014, 42.2% of our resident and management fee revenues were generated from owned communities, 47.0% from leased communities, 9.7% from our Brookdale Ancillary Services business and 1.1% from management fees from communities we operate on behalf of third parties or joint ventures in which Brookdale has an ownership interest.

Our principal executive offices are located at 111 Westwood Place, Suite 400, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027 and our telephone number at that address is (615) 221-2250. Our website address is www.brookdale.com. The information on, or accessible through, our website is not part of this prospectus and should not be relied upon in connection with making any investment decision with respect to the securities offered by this prospectus.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

You should consider the specific risks described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014, the risk factors described under the caption "Risk Factors" in any applicable prospectus supplement and any risk factors set forth in our other filings with the SEC, before making an investment decision. Each of the risks described in these documents could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects, and could result in a partial or complete loss of your investment. See "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page 16 of this prospectus.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise set forth in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds of any offering of securities for working capital and other general corporate purposes, which may include the repayment or refinancing of outstanding indebtedness and the financing of future acquisitions. We will have significant discretion in the use of any net proceeds. The net proceeds may be invested temporarily in interest-bearing accounts and short-term interest-bearing securities until they are used for their stated purpose. We may provide additional information on the use of the net proceeds from the sale of the offered securities in an applicable prospectus supplement relating to the offered securities.

Table of Contents**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED DIVIDENDS**

The following table sets forth our consolidated ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends for the periods indicated:

Three Months Ended	Years Ended December 31,				
March 31, 2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

(1) Earnings for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were less than one-to-one to cover fixed charges. The coverage deficiencies were \$3.0 million, \$0.4 million, \$61.1 million, \$67.8 million, \$81.5 million and \$101.8 million, respectively.

For purposes of the ratio, earnings means the sum of:

our pre-tax income from continuing operations, before adjustments for minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries or income or loss from equity investees;

any distributed income we receive from less-than-fifty-percent-owned companies; and

our fixed charges, excluding capitalized interest, and preferred stock dividend requirements of our consolidated subsidiaries.

Fixed charges and preferred stock dividends means the sum of:

the interest we pay on borrowed funds;

the preferred stock dividend requirements of our consolidated subsidiaries;

the amount we amortize for debt discount, premium, and issuance expense;

an estimate of the interest within rent expense; and

our preferred stock dividend requirements, increased to an amount representing the pre-tax earnings required to cover such dividend requirements based on our effective income tax rates.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General

As of the date of this prospectus, our authorized capital stock consists of:

200,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share; and

50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share.

As of June 5, 2014, there were outstanding 125,393,366 shares of common stock (excluding unvested restricted shares) and no outstanding shares of preferred stock. All of the shares of common stock outstanding on the date of this prospectus are validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable under the Delaware General Corporation Law, or the DGCL.

Set forth below is a summary description of the material terms of our capital stock. This description is qualified in its entirety by reference to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws.

Common Stock

Each holder of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share of common stock held on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders. Except as provided with respect to any other class or series of stock, the holders of our common stock possess the exclusive right to vote for the election of directors and for all other purposes. The amended and restated certificate of incorporation does not provide for cumulative voting in the election of directors. Subject to any preference rights of holders of our preferred stock that the Company may issue in the future, the holders of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends, if any, declared from time to time by our board of directors out of legally available funds. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, the holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after the payment of liabilities, subject to any rights of our holders of preferred stock to prior distribution.

The holders of common stock have no preemptive, subscription, redemption or conversion rights. Any shares of common stock sold under this prospectus will be fully paid and non-assessable upon issuance against full payment of the purchase price for such shares.

Our common stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol BKD. As of June 5, 2014, the closing price per share of our common stock on the NYSE was \$34.09, and we had approximately 389 holders of record of our common stock.

Preferred Stock

The board of directors has the authority, without action by our stockholders, to issue preferred stock and to fix voting powers for each class or series of preferred stock, and to provide that any class or series may be subject to redemption, entitled to receive dividends, entitled to rights upon dissolution or convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or classes of capital stock. The rights with respect to a series or class of preferred stock may be greater than the rights attached to our common stock. It is not possible to state the actual effect of the issuance of any shares of our preferred stock on the rights of holders of our common stock until our board of directors determines the specific rights attached to that preferred stock. The effect of issuing preferred stock could include one or more of the following:

restricting dividends in respect of our common stock;

diluting the voting power of our common stock or providing that holders of preferred stock have the right to vote on matters as a class;

impairing the liquidation rights of our common stock; or

delaying or preventing a change of control of us.

Table of Contents

Anti-Takeover Effects of Delaware Law, Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Our Amended and Restated By-laws

The following is a summary of certain provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws that may be deemed to have an anti-takeover effect and may delay, deter or prevent a tender offer or takeover attempt that a stockholder might consider to be in its best interest, including those attempts that might result in a premium over the market price for the shares.

Authorized but Unissued Shares

The authorized but unissued shares of our common stock and our preferred stock will be available for future issuance without approval by our stockholders. These additional shares may be utilized for a variety of corporate purposes, including future public offerings to raise additional capital, corporate acquisitions and employee benefit plans. The existence of authorized but unissued shares of our common stock and our preferred stock could render more difficult or discourage an attempt to obtain control over us by means of a proxy contest, tender offer, merger or otherwise.

Delaware Business Combination Statute

We are organized under Delaware law. Some provisions of Delaware law may delay or prevent a transaction that would cause a change in our control.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that Section 203 of the DGCL, an anti-takeover law, will not apply to us. In general, this statute prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a period of three years after the date of the transaction by which that person became an interested stockholder, unless the business combination is approved in a prescribed manner. For purposes of Section 203, a business combination includes a merger, asset sale or other transaction resulting in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder, and an interested stockholder is a person who, together with affiliates and associates, owns, or within three years prior, did own, 15% or more of voting stock.

Other Provisions of Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Our Amended and Restated By-laws

Certain provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation may make a change in control of the Company more difficult to effect. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides for a staggered board of directors consisting of three classes of directors. Directors of each class are chosen for three-year terms upon the expiration of their current terms and each year one class of our directors will be elected by our stockholders. The current terms of the Class I, Class II and Class III directors will expire at the annual meetings of stockholders to be held in 2014, 2016 and 2015, respectively. We believe that classification of our board of directors will help to assure the continuity and stability of our business strategies and policies as determined by our board of directors. Additionally, there is no cumulative voting in the election of directors. The classified board provision could have the effect of making the replacement of incumbent directors more time consuming and difficult. At least two annual meetings of stockholders, instead of one, will generally be required to effect a change in a majority of our board of directors. Thus, the classified board provision could increase the likelihood that incumbent directors will retain their positions. The staggered terms of directors may delay, defer or prevent a tender offer or an attempt to change control of us, even though a tender offer or change in control might be in the best interest of our stockholders. In addition, our amended and restated by-laws provide that directors may be removed only for cause and only with the affirmative vote of at least 80% of the voting interest of stockholders entitled to vote.

Pursuant to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, shares of our preferred stock may be issued from time to time, and the board of directors is authorized to determine and alter all rights, preferences,

Table of Contents

privileges, qualifications, limitations and restrictions without limitation. See Preferred Stock. Our amended and restated by-laws also provide that our stockholders are specifically denied the ability to call a special meeting of the stockholders. Advance notice must be provided by our stockholders to nominate persons for election to our board of directors as well as to propose actions to be taken at an annual meeting.

Limitations on Liability and Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws provide that our directors will not be personally liable to us or our stockholders for monetary damages for breach of a fiduciary duty as a director, except for:

any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to us or our stockholders;

acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;

liability under Delaware corporate law for an unlawful payment of dividends or an unlawful stock purchase or redemption of stock; or

any transaction from which the director derives an improper personal benefit.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation allows us to indemnify our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law.

We have entered into indemnification agreements with certain of our directors and executive officers. These provisions and agreements may have the practical effect in some cases of eliminating our stockholders' ability to collect monetary damages from our directors and executive officers.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, may be permitted to directors, officers or persons controlling the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, we have been informed that, in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC. The telephone number of American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC is (718) 921-8200.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We may offer secured or unsecured debt securities which may be senior, subordinated or junior subordinated, and which may be convertible. We may issue debt securities in one or more series.

The following description briefly sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the debt securities. The particular terms of the debt securities offered by any prospectus supplement and the extent, if any, to which these general provisions may apply to the debt securities, will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. The form of indenture is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. The terms of the debt securities will include those set forth in the indenture, any related securities documents and those made a part of the indenture by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. You should read the summary below, the applicable prospectus supplement and the provisions of the indenture and any related security documents, if any, in their entirety before investing in our debt securities. Capitalized terms used in the summary have the meanings specified in the indenture.

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

the title and aggregate principal amount of the debt securities;

whether the debt securities will be senior, subordinated or junior subordinated;

whether the debt securities will be secured or unsecured;

applicable subordination provisions, if any;

whether the debt securities are convertible or exchangeable into other securities;

the percentage or percentages of principal amount at which such debt securities will be issued;

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

the dates on which interest will accrue or the method for determining dates on which interest will accrue and dates on which interest will be payable;

the maturity date;

redemption or early repayment provisions;

authorized denominations;

form;

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

whether such debt securities will be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities;

the identity of the depositary for global securities;

whether a temporary security is to be issued with respect to such series and whether any interest payable prior to the issuance of definitive securities of the series will be credited to the account of the persons entitled thereto;

the terms upon which beneficial interests in a temporary global security may be exchanged in whole or in part for beneficial interests in a definitive global security or for individual definitive securities;

any covenants applicable to the particular debt securities being issued;

any defaults and events of default applicable to the particular debt securities being issued;

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

any applicable subordination provisions for any subordinated debt securities;

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

Table of Contents

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

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

the securities exchange(s) on which the securities will be listed, if any;

whether any underwriter(s) will act as market maker(s) for the securities;

the extent to which a secondary market for the securities is expected to develop;

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

provisions relating to covenant defeasance and legal defeasance;

provisions relating to satisfaction and discharge of the indenture;

provisions relating to the modification of the indenture both with and without the consent of holders of debt securities issued under the indenture; and

additional terms not inconsistent with the provisions of the indenture.

General

We may sell the debt securities, including original issue discount securities, at par or at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. Unless we inform you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we may issue additional debt securities of a particular series without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of such series outstanding at the time of issuance. Any such additional debt securities, together with all other outstanding debt securities of that series, will constitute a single series of securities under the indenture. In addition, we will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement, material U.S. federal income tax considerations and any other special considerations for any debt securities we sell which are denominated in a currency or currency unit other than U.S. dollars. Unless we inform you otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not be listed on any securities exchange.

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

than any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Global Securities

Unless we inform you otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depositary identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Global securities will be issued in registered form and in either temporary or definitive form. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for the individual debt securities, a global security may not be transferred except as a whole by the depositary for such global security to a nominee of such depositary or by a nominee of such depositary to such depositary or another nominee of such depositary or by such depositary or any such nominee to a successor of such depositary or a nominee of such successor. The specific terms of the depositary arrangement with respect to any debt securities of a series and the rights of and limitations upon owners of beneficial interests in a global security will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Governing Law

The indenture and the debt securities shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of New York.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the applicable securities offered by this prospectus from time to time in one or more transactions, including without limitation:

directly to one or more purchasers;

through agents;

to or through underwriters, brokers or dealers;

through a combination of any of these methods.

A distribution of the securities offered by this prospectus may also be effected through the issuance of derivative securities, including without limitation, warrants, subscriptions, exchangeable securities, forward delivery contracts and the writing of options.

In addition, the manner in which we may sell some or all of the securities covered by this prospectus, include, without limitation, through:

a block trade in which a broker-dealer will attempt to sell as agent, but may position or resell a portion of the block, as principal, in order to facilitate the transaction;

purchases by a broker-dealer, as principal, and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;

ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which a broker solicits purchasers; or

privately negotiated transactions.

We may also enter into hedging transactions. For example, we may:

enter into transactions with a broker-dealer or affiliate thereof in connection with which such broker-dealer or affiliate will engage in short sales of the common stock pursuant to this prospectus, in which case such broker-dealer or affiliate may use shares of common stock received from us to close out its short positions;

sell securities short and redeliver such shares to close out our short positions;

enter into option or other types of transactions that require us to deliver common stock to a broker-dealer or an affiliate thereof, who will then resell or transfer the common stock under this prospectus; or

loan or pledge the common stock to a broker-dealer or an affiliate thereof, who may sell the loaned shares or, in an event of default in the case of a pledge, sell the pledged shares pursuant to this prospectus.

In addition, we may enter into derivative or hedging transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. In connection with such a transaction, the third parties may sell the applicable securities covered by and pursuant to this prospectus and an applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be. If so, the third party may use securities borrowed from us or others to settle such sales and may use securities received from us to close out any related short positions. We may also loan or pledge securities covered by this prospectus and an applicable prospectus supplement to third parties, who may sell the loaned securities or, in an event of default in the case of a pledge, sell the pledged securities pursuant to this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

A prospectus supplement with respect to each offering of securities will state the terms of the offering of the securities, including:

the name or names of any underwriters or agents and the amounts of securities underwritten or purchased by each of them, if any;

Table of Contents

the public offering price or purchase price of the securities and the net proceeds to be received by us from the sale;

any delayed delivery arrangements;

any underwriting discounts or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation;

any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and

any securities exchange or markets on which the securities may be listed.

The offer and sale of the securities described in this prospectus by us, the underwriters or the third parties described above may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions, including privately negotiated transactions, either:

at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

at prices related to the prevailing market prices; or

at negotiated prices.

General

Any public offering price and any discounts, commissions, concessions or other items constituting compensation allowed or reallocated or paid to underwriters, dealers, agents or remarketing firms may be changed from time to time. Any underwriters, dealers, agents and remarketing firms that participate in the distribution of the offered securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act. Any discounts or commissions they receive from us and any profits they receive on the resale of the offered securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. We will identify any underwriters, agents or dealers and describe their commissions, fees or discounts in the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

Underwriters and Agents

If underwriters are used in a sale, they will acquire the offered securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the offered securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions. These sales may be made at a fixed public offering price or prices, which may be changed, at market prices prevailing at the time of the sale, at prices related to such prevailing market price or at negotiated prices. We may offer the securities to the public through an underwriting syndicate or through a single underwriter. The underwriters in any particular offering will be mentioned in the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

Unless otherwise specified in connection with any particular offering of securities, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the offered securities will be subject to certain conditions contained in an underwriting agreement that we will enter into with the underwriters at the time of the sale to them. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the securities of the series offered if any of the securities are purchased, unless otherwise specified in connection with any particular offering of securities. Any initial offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed, reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

We may designate agents to sell the offered securities. Unless otherwise specified in connection with any particular offering of securities, the agents will agree to use their best efforts to solicit purchases for the period of their appointment. We may also sell the offered securities to one or more remarketing firms, acting as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. These firms will remarket the offered securities upon purchasing them

Table of Contents

in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to the terms of the offered securities. A prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be will identify any remarketing firm and will describe the terms of its agreement, if any, with us and its compensation.

In connection with offerings made through underwriters or agents, we may enter into agreements with such underwriters or agents pursuant to which we receive our outstanding securities in consideration for the securities being offered to the public for cash. In connection with these arrangements, the underwriters or agents may also sell securities covered by this prospectus to hedge their positions in these outstanding securities, including in short sale transactions. If so, the underwriters or agents may use the securities received from us under these arrangements to close out any related open borrowings of securities.

Dealers

We may sell the offered securities to dealers as principals. We may negotiate and pay dealers commissions, discounts or concessions for their services. The dealer may then resell such securities to the public either at varying prices to be determined by the dealer or at a fixed offering price agreed to with us at the time of resale. Dealers engaged by us may allow other dealers to participate in resales.

Direct Sales

We may choose to sell the offered securities directly. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved.

Institutional Purchasers

We may authorize agents, dealers or underwriters to solicit certain institutional investors to purchase offered securities on a delayed delivery basis pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a specified future date. The applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be, will provide the details of any such arrangement, including the offering price and commissions payable on the solicitations.

We will enter into such delayed contracts only with institutional purchasers that we approve. These institutions may include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies and educational and charitable institutions.

Indemnification; Other Relationships

We may have agreements with agents, underwriters, dealers and remarketing firms to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. Agents, underwriters, dealers and remarketing firms, and their affiliates, may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us in the ordinary course of business. This includes commercial banking and investment banking transactions.

Market-Making, Stabilization and Other Transactions

There is currently no market for any of the offered securities, other than the common stock which is listed on the NYSE. If the offered securities are traded after their initial issuance, they may trade at a discount from their initial offering price, depending upon prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities and other factors. While it is possible that an underwriter could inform us that it intends to make a market in the offered securities, such underwriter would not be obligated to do so, and any such market-making could be discontinued at any time without notice. Therefore, no assurance can be given as to whether an active trading market will develop for the offered securities.

We have no current plans for listing of the preferred stock or debt securities on any securities exchange or quotation system; any such listing with respect to any preferred stock or any debt securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be.

Table of Contents

In connection with any offering of common stock, preferred stock, debt securities or securities that provide for the issuance of shares of our common stock upon conversion, exchange or exercise, as the case may be, the underwriters may purchase and sell shares of common stock, preferred stock or our debt securities in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve syndicate sales of common stock in excess of the number of shares to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Covered short sales are sales of shares made in an amount up to the number of shares represented by the underwriters over-allotment option. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered syndicate short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the over-allotment option. Transactions to close out the covered syndicate short involve either purchases of the common stock in the open market after the distribution has been completed or the exercise of the over-allotment option. The underwriters may also make naked short sales of shares in excess of the over-allotment option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares of common stock in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of shares in the open market while the offering is in progress for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the securities.

In connection with any offering, the underwriters may also engage in penalty bids. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the securities originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in a syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions. Stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would be in the absence of the transactions. The underwriters may, if they commence these transactions, discontinue them at any time.

Fees and Commissions

In compliance with the guidelines of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, the aggregate maximum discount, commission or agency fees or other items constituting underwriting compensation to be received by any FINRA member or independent broker-dealer will not exceed 8% of any offering pursuant to this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, as the case may be; however, it is anticipated that the maximum commission or discount to be received in any particular offering of securities will be significantly less than this amount.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York, will provide opinions regarding the authorization and validity of the securities. Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP may also provide opinions regarding certain other matters. Any underwriters will also be advised about legal matters by their own counsel, which will be named in the prospectus supplement.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Brookdale Senior Living Inc. appearing in Brookdale Senior Living Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 (including the schedule appearing therein) and the effectiveness of Brookdale Senior Living Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2013 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and Brookdale Senior Living Inc.'s management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2013 are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Emeritus and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2013, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2013, have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplements and the documents incorporated by reference (including statements with respect to the Merger and transactions contemplated by the Master Agreement (each as previously defined in the documents incorporated by reference)) may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Those forward-looking statements include all statements that are not historical statements of fact and those regarding our intent, belief or expectations, including, but not limited to, statements relating to our operational initiatives and growth strategies and our expectations regarding their effect on our results; our expectations regarding the economy, the senior living industry, occupancy, revenue, cash flow, operating income, expenses, capital expenditures, Program Max opportunities, cost savings, the demand for senior housing, the home resale market, expansion, development and construction activity, acquisition opportunities, asset dispositions, our share repurchase program, capital deployment, returns on invested capital and taxes; our expectations regarding returns to shareholders and our growth prospects; our expectations concerning the future performance of recently acquired communities and the effects of acquisitions on our financial results; our ability to secure financing or repay, replace or extend existing debt at or prior to maturity; our ability to remain in compliance with all of our debt and lease agreements (including the financial covenants contained therein); our expectations regarding liquidity and leverage; our expectations regarding financings and refinancings of assets (including the timing thereof) and their effect on our results; our expectations regarding changes in government reimbursement programs and their effect on our results; our plans to generate growth organically through occupancy improvements, increases in annual rental rates and the achievement of operating efficiencies and cost savings; our plans to expand our offering of ancillary services (therapy, home health and hospice); our plans to expand, renovate, redevelop and reposition existing communities; our plans to acquire additional communities, asset portfolios, operating companies and home health agencies; the expected project costs for our expansion, redevelopment and repositioning program; our expected levels of expenditures and reimbursements (and the timing thereof); our expectations regarding our sales, marketing and branding initiatives and their impact on our results; our expectations for the performance of our entrance fee communities; our ability to anticipate, manage and address industry trends and their effect on our business; our expectations regarding the payment of dividends; our ability to increase revenues, earnings, Adjusted EBITDA, Cash From Facility Operations, and/or Facility Operating Income (as such terms are defined by incorporation by reference herein); and our expectations regarding the Merger and the transactions contemplated by the Master Agreement. Words such as anticipate(s) , expect(s) , intend(s) , plan(s) , target(s) , predict(s) , believe(s) , may , will , would , could , should , seek(s) , estimate(s) and similar expressions identify such forward-looking statements. These statements are based on management's current expectations and beliefs and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could lead to actual results differing materially from those projected, forecasted or expected. Although we believe that the assumptions underlying the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that our expectations will be attained. Factors which could have a material adverse effect on our operations and future prospects or which could cause events or circumstances to differ from the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the risk associated with the current global economic situation and its impact upon capital markets and liquidity; changes in governmental reimbursement programs; our inability to extend (or refinance) debt (including our credit and letter of credit facilities) as it matures; the risk that we may not be able to satisfy the conditions precedent to exercising the extension options associated with certain of our debt agreements; events which adversely affect the ability of seniors to afford our monthly resident fees or entrance fees; the conditions of housing markets in certain geographic areas; our ability to generate sufficient cash flow to cover required interest and long-term operating lease payments; the effect of our indebtedness and long-term operating leases on our liquidity; the risk of loss of property pursuant to our mortgage debt and long-term lease obligations; the possibilities that changes in the capital markets, including changes in interest rates and/or credit spreads, or other factors could make financing more expensive or unavailable to us; our determination from time to time to purchase any shares under the repurchase program; our ability to fund any repurchases; our ability to effectively manage our growth; our ability to maintain consistent quality control; delays in obtaining regulatory

approvals; the risk that we may not be able to expand, redevelop and reposition our communities in accordance with our plans; our ability to complete

Table of Contents

acquisitions and integrate them into our operations; competition for the acquisition of assets; our ability to obtain additional capital on terms acceptable to us; a decrease in the overall demand for senior housing; our vulnerability to economic downturns; acts of nature in certain geographic areas; terminations of our resident agreements and vacancies in the living spaces we lease; early terminations or non-renewal of management agreements; increased competition for skilled personnel; increased union activity; departure of our key officers; increases in market interest rates; environmental contamination at any of our communities; failure to comply with existing environmental laws; an adverse determination or resolution of complaints filed against us; the cost and difficulty of complying with increasing and evolving regulation; risks relating to the Merger and the transactions contemplated by the Master Agreement, including in respect of the satisfaction of closing conditions to such transactions; unanticipated difficulties and/or expenditures relating to such transactions; the risk that regulatory approvals required for such transactions are not obtained or are obtained subject to conditions that are not anticipated; uncertainties as to the timing of such transactions; litigation relating to such transactions; the impact of such transactions on each company's relationships with residents, employees and third parties; and the inability to obtain, or delays in obtaining, cost savings and synergies from such transactions; as well as other risks detailed from time to time in our filings with the SEC, press releases and other communications, including those set forth under "Risk Factors" included elsewhere in this prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this prospectus. We expressly disclaim any obligation to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in our expectations with regard thereto or change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

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

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplements, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered part of this prospectus, and information filed with the SEC subsequent to this prospectus and prior to the termination of the particular offering referred to in such prospectus supplement will automatically be deemed to update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement the documents listed below (excluding any portions of such documents that have been furnished but not filed for purposes of the Exchange Act):

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, filed on March 3, 2014, as amended on Form 10-K/A, filed on April 30, 2014;

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014, filed on May 12, 2014;

Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on June 6, 2014;

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 21, 2014, April 23, 2014, April 25, 2014, May 27, 2014, June 2, 2014, June 3, 2014 and June 5, 2014; and

The description of our common stock set forth in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on October 11, 2005, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

We also incorporate by reference any future filings made by us with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act between the date of this prospectus and the date all of the securities offered hereby are sold or the offering is otherwise terminated, with the exception of any information furnished under Item 2.02 and Item 7.01 of Form 8-K (including related exhibits), which is not deemed filed and which is not incorporated by reference herein. Any such filings shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference and to be a part of this prospectus from the respective dates of filing of those documents.

We will provide without charge upon written or oral request to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of any and all of the documents which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus but not delivered with this prospectus (other than exhibits unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference in such documents).

You may request a copy of these documents by writing or telephoning us at:

Brookdale Senior Living Inc., Attn: Secretary

111 Westwood Place, Suite 400

Brentwood, Tennessee 37027

(615) 221-2250

Table of Contents

8,750,000 Shares

Brookdale Senior Living Inc.

Common Stock

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

BofA Merrill Lynch

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

CS Capital Advisors, LLC

RBC Capital Markets

September , 2014