

KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC  
 Form 4  
 February 27, 2006

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**ALTMAN WILLIAM M**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC  
 [KND]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**680 SOUTH FOURTH STREET**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**02/23/2006**

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**Senior V.P. Compliance**

**LOUISVILLE, KY 40202**

(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	02/23/2006		A	5,138 (1) A \$ 0	25,348	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
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				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 21.99	02/23/2006		A		144		02/23/2007 <sup>(2)</sup>	02/23/2013	Common Stock	144
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 21.99	02/23/2006		A		6,083		02/23/2007 <sup>(3)</sup>	02/23/2013	Common Stock	6,083

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
ALTMAN WILLIAM M 680 SOUTH FOURTH STREET LOUISVILLE, KY 40202	Director 10% Owner Officer Senior V.P. Compliance Other

## Signatures

William M. Altman 02/27/2006

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) These shares represent restricted stock granted to the reporting person. These shares vest in equal annual installments over four years commencing on 2/23/2007.
- (2) This option becomes exercisable in the following installment: 144 on 2/23/07.
- (3) This option becomes exercisable in the following cumulative installments: 1,412 on 2/23/07, 1,557 on 2/23/08, 1,557 on 2/23/09 and 1,577 on 2/23/10.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.