JANA PARTNERS LLC Form SC 13G January 23, 2006

SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G (Rule 13d-102)

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS FILED PURSUANT TO RULES 13d-1(b), (c) AND (d) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO FILED PURSUANT TO 13d-2(b)

Kindred Healthcare, Inc.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, \$.25 Par Value
-----(Title of Class of Securities)

494580103 -----(CUSIP Number)

January 11, 2006

(Date of event which requires filing of this statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- [ ] Rule 13d-1(b)
- [x] Rule 13d-1(c)
- [ ] Rule 13d-1(d)

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\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

(1)	NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) JANA PARTNERS LLC			
(2)	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP **	(a) [ ] (b) [ ]		
(3)	SEC USE ONLY			
(4)	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION DELAWARE			
NUMBER OF	(5) SOLE VOTING POWER 3,650,600			
SHARES				
BENEFICIALL	Y (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 0			
EACH	(7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER			
REPORTING	3,650,600			
PERSON WITH	(8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 0			
(9)	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 3,650,600			
(10)	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES **	[ ]		
(11)	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 9.37%			
(12)	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON **  IA			
	** SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!			
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Item 1(a).	Name of Issuer: KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC.			
Item 1(b).	Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices: 680 South Fourth Street Louisville, KY 40202-2412			
Item 2(a).	Name of Person Filing:			

		JANA	PARTNERS LLC
Item 2(b)	•	Addre	ess of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence:
		201 E	POST STREET, SUITE 1000, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108
Item 2(c)		Citiz	zenship:
	limit manag accou	ed li ement nts i	This Statement is filed by JANA Partners LLC, a Delaware iability company. JANA Partners LLC is a private money firm which holds the Common Stock of the Issuer in various under its management and control. The principals of JANA LLC, Barry Rosenstein and Gary Claar, are U.S. citizens.
Item 2(d)		Title	e of Class of Securities:
		COMMO	ON STOCK
Item 2(e)	. CUS	IP Nu	umber: 494580103
			tement is filed pursuant to Rules 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b) or the person filing is a:
	(a)	[ ]	Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act,
	(b)	[ ]	Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act,
	(c)	[ ]	Insurance Company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act,
	(d)	[ ]	Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940,
	(e)	[ ]	<pre>Investment Adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E),</pre>
	(f)	[ ]	Employee Benefit Plan or Endowment Fund in accordance with Rule $13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F)$ ,
	(g)	[ ]	Parent Holding Company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G),
	(h)	[ ]	Savings Association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act,
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	(i)	[ ]	Church Plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940,
	(j)	[ ]	Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

If this statement is filed pursuant to 13d-1(c), check this box: [x]

- Item 4. Ownership.
  - (a) Amount beneficially owned: 3,650,600
  - (b) Percent of class: 9.37%
  - (c) Number of shares as to which JANA Partners LLC has:
    - (i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: 3,650,600
    - (ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 0
    - (iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: 3,650,600
      - (iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 0
- Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.
  Not Applicable
- Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person. Not Applicable
- Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company. Not Applicable
- Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.
  Not Applicable
- Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.
  Not Applicable

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Item 10. Certification.

Each of the Reporting Persons hereby makes the following certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

#### SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

DATED: January 23, 2006

JANA PARTNERS LLC

By: /s/ Barry Rosenstein

Barry Rosenstein Managing Partner

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By: /s/ Gary Claar

Gary Claar Managing Director