UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 9, 2012

CENTENE CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 001-31826 (Commission File Number) 42-1406317 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

7700 Forsyth Blvd. St. Louis, Missouri (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

63105 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 725-4477

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

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- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- " Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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ITEM 1.01 ENTRY INTO A MATERIAL DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT

On March 9, 2012, Superior HealthPlan, Inc., a subsidiary of Centene Corporation, received an executed amendment to the Health & Human Services Commission Uniform Managed Care Contract for the STAR, STAR+PLUS and CHIP programs (the "Amendment") from the Texas Health & Human Services Commission. The Amendment is effective March 1, 2012 and, among other things, establishes capitation rates for the STAR, STAR+PLUS and CHIP programs in the State of Texas for the rate period March 1, 2012 through August 31, 2012.

On March 1, 2012, the Company began operating under contracts in Texas that expanded its operations through new service areas including the 10 county Hidalgo Service Area and the Medicaid Rural Service Areas of West Texas, Central Texas and North-East Texas, as well as the addition of STAR+PLUS in the Lubbock Service Area. The expansion also added the management of outpatient pharmacy benefits in all service areas and products, as well as inpatient facility services for the STAR+PLUS program.

The foregoing description does not purport to be a complete statement of the parties' rights and obligations under the Amendment.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

CENTENE CORPORATION

Date: March 9, 2012 By: /s/ William N. Scheffel

William N. Scheffel

Executive Vice President & Chief

Financial Officer