SENIOR HOUSING PROPERTIES TRUST Form 8-K August 14, 2013

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): August 8, 2013

SENIOR HOUSING PROPERTIES TRUST

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Maryland

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-15319 (Commission File Number) **04-3445278** (IRS Employer Identification No.)

Two Newton Place,
255 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, Massachusetts
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

02458-1634 (Zip Code)

617-796-8350

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(Registrant s Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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

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ITEM 8.01 OTHER EVENTS.

On August 8, 2013, pursuant to ownership limitation provisions of the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust of Senior Housing Properties Trust, or the Company, and the Rights Agreement by and between the Company and Equiserve Trust Company, N.A., dated as of March 10, 2004, as amended, the Board of Trustees of the Company approved the issuance of a letter to a large investment management firm that manages mutual funds permitting such firm to acquire beneficial ownership of up to 15% of the Company s outstanding common shares (or up to (but less than) 20% of the Company s outstanding common shares, if the lenders under the Company s credit agreement waive the applicable ownership restrictions under such agreements with respect to such firm). This permission is subject to limitations and covenants to ensure compliance by the Company with real estate investment trust qualification requirements and as agreed by the Company and such firm.

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SIGNATURES

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.

SENIOR HOUSING PROPERTIES TRUST

By: /s/ Richard A. Doyle Name: Richard A. Doyle

Title: Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer

Date: August 14, 2013