

## Rotary Club of Howard West President Rawle Andrews Jr., Esq. to Receive Project Blackbird's 2026 Hidden Hero Award



Washington, D.C, District of Columbia May 7, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.IssueWire.com)) - The Rotary Club of Howard West is proud to announce that its president, **Rawle Andrews Jr., Esq.**, will be honored as a recipient of the **Hidden Hero Award** at the **2026 Project Blackbird Annual Gala** on May 8, 2026, at Nationals Park in Washington, DC.

Produced in conjunction with National Mental Health Awareness Month, the 2026 Project Blackbird Annual Gala is dedicated to advancing youth mental health through storytelling, connection, and access to care. The evening will bring together leaders across healthcare, education, public policy, and professional sports to support national efforts to increase awareness, reduce stigma, and expand access to mental health care for young people.

In addition to his role as Rotary Club president, Rawle is the executive director of the American Psychiatric Association Foundation (APAF), past two-term president of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia (BADC), a trustee of the Thurgood Marshall Center Trust, an adjunct law professor at Georgetown Law and Howard University School of Law, and the national chairman of the public policy committee of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

“I am humbled by this recognition and grateful to the physicians, allied health professionals, staff, volunteers, and community members who make this work meaningful and awards like this possible,” said Andrews. “We can’t do everything, but together we can do anything.”

The Project Blackbird Gala raises critical funds to provide free access to mental health resources for students in need, furthering efforts to ensure that more young people receive the care and support they deserve.

We invite community members, organizations, and potential partners to join us in celebrating this recognition and supporting impactful initiatives that uplift youth and families. Please join us in extending our wholehearted support and congratulations to Mr. Andrews.

### **About Rotary Club of Howard West**

The Rotary Club of Howard West, based in Ellicott City, Maryland, is part of Rotary International - a global network of 45,000 clubs and over 1.4 million members dedicated to community service, peacebuilding, education, disease prevention, clean water, maternal and child health, economic development, and environmental stewardship. Since its founding in 2014 as part of District 7620, Howard West Rotarians have organized impactful local and international service projects with an emphasis on mental health and well-being, the interests of women and girls, and community service. Our club meets weekly in a hybrid format on Mondays at 6:30 PM ET at Glory Days Grill in Ellicott City, MD. To learn more about our club or get involved in our mission of “Service Above Self,” please visit [bit.ly/howardwestrc](https://bit.ly/howardwestrc) or email [rawleandrewsjr@gmail.com](mailto:rawleandrewsjr@gmail.com).

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