



AGONO HERBERT HONDA

Founder at The Purple Ray

Honda is an IVLP alumnus from Uganda who participated in the Empowering Youth through Workforce Development program in April 2019. During the program, Honda met with CareerWise, the Society of Women Engineers – Rocky Mountain Section, Emily Griffith Technical College, Purple Door Coffee, the Denver Office of Children’s Affairs & Mayor’s Youth Commission, and GRASP. The group also went on a monument excursion and had the opportunity to explore Denver for a day on their own.

“Denver, Colorado is one of the most exciting and beautiful places I traveled to during my stateside visit. From the bumpy flight to the city, the beautiful scenery of snow capped mountains, the weather, beautiful sceneries around the city, and being told to drink a lot of water! The most surprising commonality is the mountainous physical features and the high altitude. In Uganda, I live in the mountainous southwest. As much as my home town’s weather is not as cold as Denver’s, it is considered to be one of the coldest places in Uganda! I literally live in the mountains! The mountains and the high altitude in Denver reminded me of home.

Back in Uganda, I am the founder and team leader of a youth centric organization called The Purple Ray. Founded in 2016, The Purple Ray aims to spearhead a transition of youth from societal challenges they face to an emphasis on the opportunities that exist to help them reach a better quality of life in Uganda. The Purple Ray is seeking resources to establish an integrated youth employment and business skilling and health information center for 200 young people aged 10-25 both in and out of school with major focus on those whose jobs and businesses were affected by the COVID-19 prevention measures.”

Learn more about The Purple Ray and how to support Honda’s efforts [at this link](#).

**- AGONO HERBERT
HONDA**