



## **MINDSET OF COMMUNITIES’ IN ACHOLI IMPACTED – GIVE TOWARDS TEACHERS’ HOUSES AND BRIDGE, ROAD NEXT.**

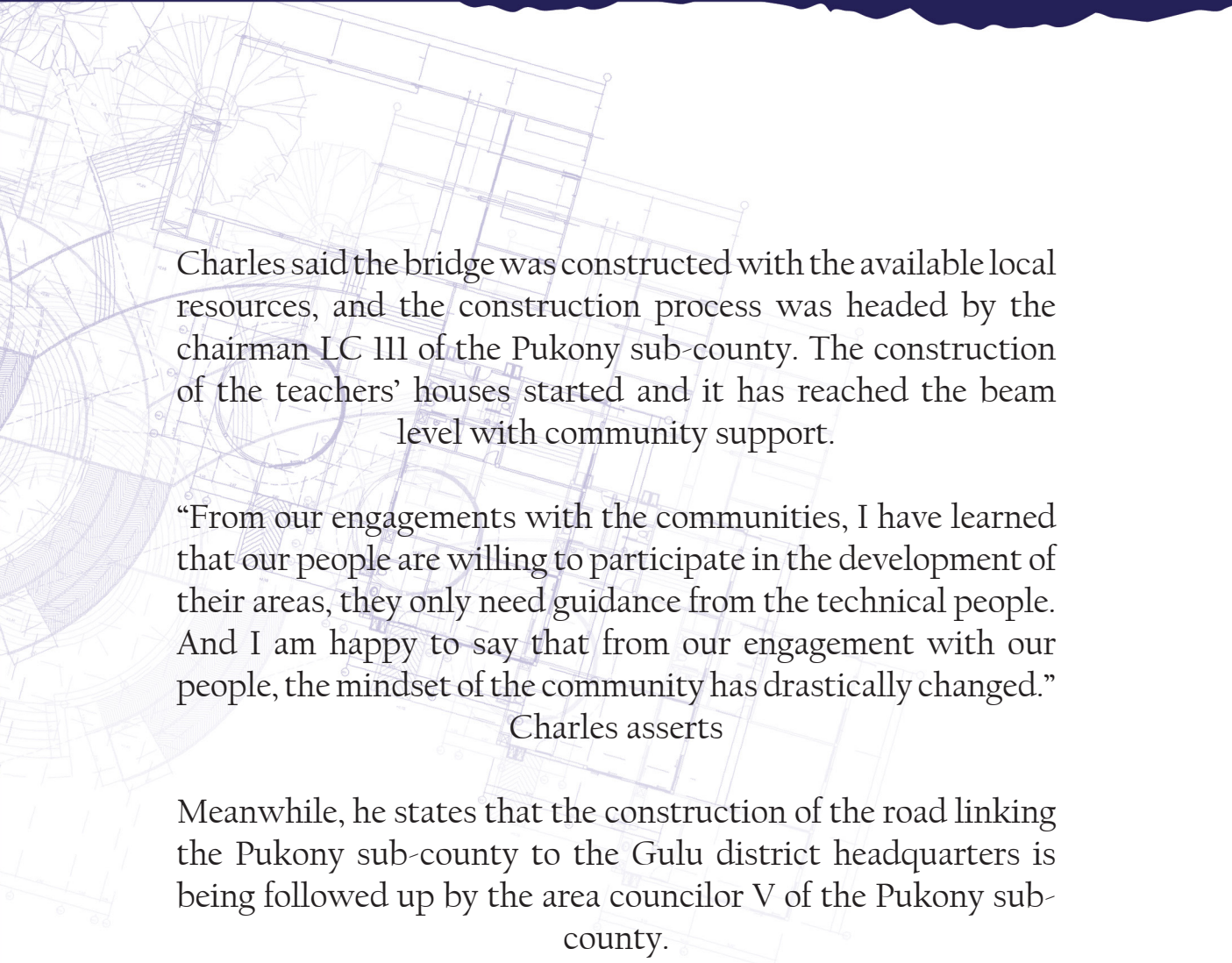
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**C**hanging the mindset of communities to embrace ‘Giving for Change’ is very important, because once communities come on board to support projects intended to transform their lives and communities, that is where the real change starts from.

And the community facilitators of the Acholi region are impressed with how people in their communities embraced the Philanthropy for Development (PD4) program, and supported it, and the results are now visible.

Charles Okeny, a community facilitator working with Gulu NGO Forum, says using skills on facilitation and advocacy imparted to them, they were able to conduct community dialogues and fireplace conversation meetings to rally community support, raise resources for purposes of (i) construction of Laban bridge that links the people of Laban parish to Pukony Health Centre II in Pukony sub-county. (ii) Construction of teachers’ houses in Pukony PS. (iii) Fixing bad roads linking the Pukony sub-county and Gulu district headquarters. And this is what has been achieved so far.





Charles said the bridge was constructed with the available local resources, and the construction process was headed by the chairman LC III of the Pukony sub-county. The construction of the teachers' houses started and it has reached the beam level with community support.

“From our engagements with the communities, I have learned that our people are willing to participate in the development of their areas, they only need guidance from the technical people. And I am happy to say that from our engagement with our people, the mindset of the community has drastically changed.”

Charles asserts

Meanwhile, he states that the construction of the road linking the Pukony sub-county to the Gulu district headquarters is being followed up by the area councilor V of the Pukony sub-county.

However, in the course of activity implementation, he noted that there were some challenges encountered such as limited resources, poor time management by community members, and communication gap in terms of mobilization.

Despite the few hiccups, this team is determined to see their communities transformed, and are planning to roll out the Giving for Change program to other parts of Pukony sub-county and beyond.

