



Inspiring youth: Some of the StepUP coaches, from left to right, Charles Wass, Julie Dines, Rhianne Lawrence, Lara Watson

Teen event in need of coaches

EFFORTS to raise \$70,000 to hold the first StepUp event for 500 Geraldton teenagers are

gaining pace. The global phenomenon will come to Geraldton on September 9 and 10, with a goal to have 500 teenagers participate in the event.

As a not-for-profit organisation the onus has been on the organisers to raise \$70,000 to run the event, organise six high profile speakers, gain the interest of 500 teenagers, and find 80 coaches.

Supporter Tony Emmott of Cramer and Neill said the Mid West community had been remarkable in its sup-

port. "So far we have 460 teenagers confirmed, 25 coaches, three of the six guest-speakers and have raised \$50,000," he said.

"Although the team is well on the way the big gap is in the coach numbers," he said.

"Coaching is a fantastic opportunity for anyone to spend two days with a small group of seven teenagers, helping to make a difference to their future.

"Apart from the challenge and enjoyment of being a part of the event, coaches will receive per-

sonal development training before the event." Mr Emmott said for businesses the opportunity to send staff as coaches was a unique opportunity to provide another dimension to an employee's skill set.

"Ultimately teenagers need life-education to sit alongside their formal education, as they will be tomorrow's parents, leaders, and caretakers of the community," Mr Emmott said.

For more information visit www.stepupfoundation.com or call Gail Henry on 9965 0022.