

# Our Mob, Your Mob, One Mob

By Haidee Vandenberghe

A LOCAL group of aboriginal youths aged 10-18, along with the nationally renowned Ngadju Indigenous dance group from Norseman, will be performing in an Indigenous dance concert to be held at the Civic Centre this weekend.

The concert, called 'Our Mob, Your Mob, One Mob', is organised through local agency Escare and Mentally HealthyWA and will feature contemporary dance, hip hop, the Wongutha CAPS band and traditional indigenous dancing from the Ngadju group.

Escare Youth Work, Lorette Trocinski said that the concert came about after a group Indigenous youths came to the Escare youth service and asked about dance groups.

"After these kids showed an interest in dance we decided to apply for funding.

"Locally we were able to get some funding from the Shire, Esperance Community Arts, Mentally Healthy WA and the Office for Children and Youth but it's the kids who have really driven this project.

"They've organised everything themselves from the invitations to the logo and even choreographed their own dance routines, with a little guidance from local dance teacher Marie Blackburn."

Ms Trocinski, who was helped in the project by MentallyHealthyWA Project



DANCERS Maddison Lister, Fellisha Feeney and Tabby Smiler are practising their dance moves for the Indigenous dance concert to be held this Saturday.

Officer Sonia Commisso, said that the kids were very excited and were looking forward to the concert.

"Most of the kids involved have never performed in front of people before.

"The aim of this whole project was to help build positive self-esteem, confi-

dence and leadership skills.

"The kids have been really working as a team, with the older kids helping out the younger ones."

The concert will be held at the Civic Centre this Saturday, November 24, between 2pm and 4pm.

It will be free to attend

but gold coin donations would be welcomed to help future projects.

Ms Trocinski said that the concert was open to everyone and that she would like to see both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people come to support the kids.