

ManawatuStandard

Photo shoot between M8s

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Palmerston North teenagers will get the chance to have a photo-shoot with top Kiwi musician Tiki Taane to launch a campaign about looking after mates.

Young people aged 12 to 18 can put their names forward this weekend to be photographed for posters and a cinema advertisement for a new service in the city called CheckM8.

There will be a "model call" at the Pulse dance event in the city library tonight as well as at The Basement in the library tomorrow from 1pm, CheckM8 project manager Rhiannon Malley said.

The service would make sure young people had a place to find information they needed, she said.

"Everyone has stink days, but we want to make sure Palmy youth know how to get through those tough times.

"It's about having a great time with your friends in Palmerston North by being healthy, happy and well and making sure your mates are too."

Taane, ex-frontman for Salmonella Dub, went solo in 2007.

As a youth, he began getting up to mischief and having many close calls with the law.

He was considering some "very downward-spiralling pathways" when his father gave him a classical guitar, and he took on new purpose. He stopped using drugs and cut back his drinking.

CheckM8 will have a website and Facebook page. The photo-shoot will be on Monday.

The programme will launch on February 14 at Summer in the Park in the Esplanade.

It has been set up by the Palmerston North Youth Council, Palmerston North Girls' High School Young Enterprise Scheme and Youthline.