

LOCAL

Michigan State shooting survivor posts on social media, vows to fight for change



[Rachel Greco](#)

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EAST LANSING - One of five Michigan State University students critically wounded during a Feb. 13 shooting on campus posted on social media Sunday saying he'll advocate for "change" even as he recovers.

Troy Forbush, an Okemos High School graduate, said he was one of the eight students shot by a lone gunman at Berkey Hall and the MSU Union earlier this month.

MSU students Brian Fraser, Alexandria Verner and Arielle Anderson were killed during the shooting.

Forbush was one of the five students who were critically wounded and hospitalized, he said.

"I took a bullet to my chest, had a brush with death, and almost didn't make it if it weren't for the incredible doctors who saved my life in emergency surgery that night," Forbush posted on his Facebook page. "After a week spent in the ICU and three additional days being cared for by the superhero staff, I was blessed to be the first individual discharged from Sparrow Hospital."

Police and hospital officials have said they will not identify the five students wounded in the shooting, but friends and family have released the names of three of the other students: Guadalupe Huapilla-Perez and John Hao and Nate Statly.

"I live in support of my four fellow Spartans whose lives are forever changed, as mine is as well," Forbush said in his post. "There was a time when I used to dream of getting into this school — now, I represent it. My world has been turned upside down so suddenly but I refuse to be a number, a statistic.

"Alongside my family, friends, community, university, & state government officials, we will enact change. I have a long journey of recovery ahead of me," his post read. "This is only the beginning. Rest in power Alexandria, Arielle, and Brian. #SpartanStrong."

One of the five students who was wounded remains in critical condition; two students have been upgraded to serious, but stable condition; another is in fair condition, Sparrow Hospital spokesperson Corey Alexander confirmed on Sunday.

Contact Rachel Greco at rgreco@lsj.com. Follow her on Twitter @GrecoatLSJ .