

## Rio Rico Recognition



**Rescuer recognition:** Plaques and the State of Arizona BEMSTS challenge coins were presented, February 1<sup>st</sup>, in Rio Rico. Back row, left to right, are the AirEvac crew that flew the survivor to St. Mary's, Rio Rico; Battalion Chief Mike Burns (presenter); Alfredo V. (the survivor); the Tubac medic that taught the class to the students; and Battalion Chief, Genaro Rivera. In front are three of the four rescuers: (L to R) Carlos A., Sergio F., and Areana V. (rescuer and the survivor's daughter). Sergio D. couldn't make it. Chief Burns briefly told the story of what happened, highlighting each "link" in the "chain of survival."

Alfredo V., a wrestling coach at the Rio Rico High School, complained of chest pain, and left the school with his daughter, and three students to go home. When severe chest pains began, his daughter stopped the car. One of the students began chest compressions, after noticing Fernando had no pulse. Fernando's daughter called 911 on her cell phone. The students had been trained in CPR by Tubac Fire Department.

The students continued CPR until the Santa Cruz County Sheriffs' officer arrived. The officer took over CPR. Chest compressions were continued and Alfredo received his first shock at 1534. Alfredo was shocked a total of four times with chest compressions between the shocks. At 1538, he started moving his arms and a carotid pulse was detected.

Alfredo was moved into the ambulance, when his eyes opened. While waiting for the arrival of the helicopter, Alfredo's son and wife came into the ambulance and spoke to him. He was both thankful and calmer after speaking with his family. The family is grateful for the "System of Care" that saved Alfredo's life.