



# A Life Saved

When Emiliano needed a miracle,  
a Powerheart® G3 AED was there.

CASE STUDY



***“Having an AED is as important as having a fire extinguisher. Actually, if I had to choose between the two, I would probably pick the AED.”***

**Despite inadequate funding, Corpus Christi Schools were able to purchase AEDs through fundraising and community sponsorships. This decision paid off when six-year old Emiliano Vela suffered a cardiac arrest in class.**

**A**s the Student Health Services Coordinator at Corpus Christi Schools, Debbie Gilchrist knew why deploying an automated external defibrillator (AED) program throughout her school district was important. The question she struggled to answer was, How?

“My budget did not support it,” admitted Gilchrist. “We had to find the funds elsewhere to do this.”

Through community sponsors and fundraising, Corpus Christi Schools were eventually able to purchase and deploy 62 AEDs by the time six-year-old Emiliano Vela and his fellow kindergarten classmates arrived to physical education class one day during the fall of 2008.

During class, Emiliano collapsed from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA).

“He’s gurgling, he’s gurgling,” George Arciba called out, arriving first on scene to witness the six-year-old lying below him on the concrete floor of Casa Linda Elementary School.

Jeanie Parker, the school’s nurse, ran in with physical education teacher Jeannie Cantu right behind her. Scared kindergartners watched from the side.

Cantu came in with a Cardiac Science Powerheart® G3 Plus AED swinging from her arm. “CPR training tells you that if a person is gurgling to wait, but he was turning blue,” said Parker later.

Fortunately, she said, the AED took the guesswork out of the situation. Once the pads were placed on Emiliano’s chest the



AED instructed the nurse to administer a shock. With one jolt he was revived, paramedics arrived soon after and the boy was on his way to the hospital with a beating heart.

“Having an AED is as important as having a fire extinguisher,” said Gilchrist. “Actually, if I had to choose between the two, I would probably pick the AED.”

SCA strikes about 7,000 children every year. They are among the more than 365,000 people struck annually in North America. Survival is linked directly to how quickly the first AED shock is delivered to a victim. According to the American Heart Association and the European Resuscitation Council, defibrillation within three minutes of sudden cardiac arrest lifts the chance of survival to 70 percent. Studies validate that when a shock is delivered within one minute, survival rates can increase seventeen fold from five percent to levels as high as 86 percent in some cases.



## Powerheart® G3 Plus AED

The flagship Cardiac Science automated external defibrillator (AED) is ideal for schools, athletic fields, concert halls and other places where students, teachers and parents meet.

**To learn how your school can be prepared for a cardiac arrest emergency, call 800-426-1337 or visit [www.cardiacscience.com/schools](http://www.cardiacscience.com/schools).**

Cardiac Science Corporation • N7 W22025 Johnson Dr., Waukesha, WI 53186 USA • +1.262.953.3500 • Fax: +1.262.953.3499 • [care@cardiacscience.com](mailto:care@cardiacscience.com)  
Cardiac Science International A/S (Denmark) • +45.4438.0500 • [international@cardiacscience.com](mailto:international@cardiacscience.com) • United Kingdom • +44.161.926.0000  
Central Europe (D, A, CH) • +49.221.337745.90 • France • +33.4.42.12.37.91 • Italy • +39.0523.1901052 • Benelux • +32.54.325766

Cardiac Science, Powerheart, Rescue Ready and the Shielded Heart logo are trademarks of Cardiac Science Corporation.  
Copyright © 2014 Cardiac Science Corporation. All Rights Reserved. MKT-04736-01rA  
Authorized EU representative • MDSS GmbH, Schiffgraben 41, D-30175 Hannover, Germany

