

# *All of Cuba with Matanzas*

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**Beyond the countless signs of encouragement, Cubans have mobilized from Cape San Antonio to Punta de Maisi to offer their solidarity aid to Matanzas, after the fire of great proportions in the supertanker base of that western city**

By María Josefina Arce

Beyond the countless signs of encouragement, Cubans have mobilized from Cape San Antonio to Punta de Maisi to offer their solidarity aid to Matanzas, after the fire of great proportions in the supertanker base of that western city caused by the impact last Friday of a lightning strike on one of the fuel tanks.

The health system was immediately activated at the national level and conditions were created in the different provinces to provide medical assistance to dozens of people injured by the heavy fire.

Brigades of health professionals from Villa Clara, Camagüey, Ciego de Avila, Artemisa and Mayabeque and other territories of the archipelago were prepared to help their colleagues in Matanzas in caring for the victims.

In Havana, several health institutions received some of the injured, who received the required medical attention. The hospital centers, the authorities emphasized from the very beginning, have the necessary human and material resources to provide adequate assistance.

The work of the students of Medical Sciences of Matanzas, who already showed their worth during the COVID 19 pandemic, and now, in the face of the unfortunate event, they attended the victims of the fire without rest at the provincial hospital, has been outstanding.

The hundreds of blood donations made in the province of Matanzas stand out, a number that grows with the passing of the hours, and is another example of the solidarity of Cubans that has been replicated in the rest of the regions of the Greater of the Antilles.

Thousands of people from Matanzas have been taken since last Friday to safe places to protect their lives, and there they have counted not only with the support of the authorities and health personnel, but also of neighbors, farmers and private workers, who have offered food, lodging or transportation of passengers to assist in the different tasks.

Members of the Red Cross and Rescue and Rescue Teams from nearby Artemisa, Mayabeque and Havana, among other territories, also traveled to the western province to help in the work of containing the strong fire and prevent it from spreading.

Three months after the unfortunate explosion at the Zaratoga Hotel in Havana, Cuba is once again facing a painful event, and once again, without a second thought, Cubans show their willingness to help in whatever is necessary.

To leave family and friends behind, to face death once again to save the lives of their compatriots in any corner of the archipelago. Arduous and heroic has been the work of the firefighters and rescuers of Matanzas and other provinces who take hours off from rest to protect the citizens.

Cubans always rise up and take that extra effort that leads us to extend our hand, to give what we have for the benefit of others, because there is nothing more important than the life of a human being.

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