**Cabarrus County Chapter NAACP led efforts to rename East 1st Street to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue**

**​May 2021: “**Martin Luther King Jr. Ave” street signs went up in the City of Kannapolis, NC during the first week of May 2021. This two-mile stretch of road extends from Downtown Kannapolis and ends at Little Texas Road. Kannapolis the first city in Cabarrus County to have a street named after the civil rights leader. This effort was spearheaded by the Cabarrus County Branch NAACP making history in the county, the city and community. The Cabarrus County NAACP Branch work years cumulating up to this moment. Fifty-three years after Dr. King's death shows significant progress in how far diversity has shifted in southern cities like Kannapolis. Although this was a milestone there is still much more ground to cover America, to solidify it first name UNITED.