The Lawrence Alliance is an Advisory Board to the Lawrence City Commission that advocates for Lawrence citizens and works with the City Commission to create a discrimination-free environment in Lawrence. An important goal of the Alliance is to proactively promote tolerance and celebrate diversity in Lawrence. To achieve this, the Alliance hopes to do the following:

1. Offer programs to build liaisons between different minority groups and key Lawrence entities through diversity/sensitivity training. For example, the Lawrence Police Department currently offers only general sensitivity training to its officers as opposed to hearing from various diverse groups. Captain David Cobb, LPD Training Supervisor, is open to assistance with expanding diversity training to LPD officers and would like for the Alliance to develop a program of diverse groups to speak during its quarterly training sessions.

   The goal is to begin organized diversity training with the Lawrence Police Dept and eventually take it to other City entities such as City employees, Downtown Lawrence, and USD 497.

2. Hold Town Meetings in various parts of Lawrence to gauge diversity and tolerance among different groups in our community. The purpose is to allow community members to share their stories and help us to identify problems and work on solutions. An additional goal is put community members in contact with organizations that can assist them with issues arising from discrimination.

3. Provide a celebration/understanding of cultures on a City-wide level by sponsoring or co-sponsoring an event that allows members of Lawrence’s diverse community (Latino, Native American, Jewish, elderly, LGBT, etc) to showcase and describe its culture. (This is a long-term goal.)
This request should be supported (maximum of three pages) with the following information:

1. Description of funding support received from all other sources such as the United Way, Douglas County, USD 497, state/federal grants and private funding.

   The Lawrence Alliance currently receives no funding.

2. Total budget for the agency, number of personnel, and how the requested funding would be used (e.g., personnel, equipment, material, etc.).

   The Lawrence Alliance currently has no operating budget since all work is done on a voluntary basis. Money received from the City will be used to pay for the following:
   - Equipment rentals and literature costs for groups who speak during diversity training sessions.
   - Newspaper advertisements to announce Town Hall meetings.
   - Fees for invited special guests at diversity events.
   - Nominal payment for part-time person to handle training functions

3. Does the agency anticipate the need to request funding beyond 2007?

   Yes.

Additional information may be provided within the three (3) page limit. Submit this form and any additional supporting material electronically by April 10, 2006 to Debbie Van Saun, Asst. City Manager, via email to: dvansaun@ci.lawrence.ks.us

This form is not to be used for Alcohol Tax Funding Requests.