



Alija Hadzisalihovic
General Manager, McDonald's 50th Anniversary Restaurant

Alija Hadzisalihovic began his McDonald's career in Munich, Germany as a Manager Trainee in August 1993. He excelled in several restaurant level positions over the years and his most recent career highlight was being chosen to serve as General Manager of the new McDonald's 50th Anniversary restaurant in downtown Chicago, opening April 15, 2005.

After the Civil War outbreak in 1992, Alija relocated from Bosnia to Munich, Germany. There, Alija accepted his first position at McDonald's as a First Assistant. Over the course of five years, Alija gathered pertinent experience by working at three different McDonald's restaurants in Germany.

In 1997, Alija and his wife were granted entry into the United States after seeking immigration through Episcopal Church ministries. While living in Rochester, New York, Alija learned of a McDonald's franchisee, Marilyn Wright, a Croatian from Bosnia, who owned several McDonald's restaurants in the Chicago area, including the Rock n' Roll McDonald's at 600 N. Clark.

Alija wrote to Marilyn to see if there were any opportunities for him at her restaurants. Just a week later, Marilyn made contact with Alija and invited him to visit her in Chicago. A short time later, Marilyn paid all of Alija's costs to relocate to Chicago.

Alija has received many awards since joining Marilyn's organization for performance and excellent service. Today, Alija is a proud General Manager of McDonald's 50th Anniversary Restaurant, owned by Marilyn. Alija is most grateful for the opportunity that both McDonald's and franchisee, Marilyn Wright, provided for him and his family.